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Estonian couple warns of Putin's ultimate goal



Mark Lagus, whose parents are from Estonia, speaks during an event at Bangallworks in the Town of Stanford to rally local support for Ukraine on March 6. *Courtesy photo*

by Rich Thomaselli

Since February 24, Dutchess County residents Mark Lagus and his wife, Leevi Ernits, said they have been shaken over the events that have taken place in Ukraine.

That was the day that Russia and its president, Vladimir Putin, launched a full-scale invasion of a sovereign Ukraine, formerly part of the old Soviet Union, but fiercely independent since 1991 when the U.S.S.R. splintered.

Lagus' parents are from Estonia, another area of the old Communist regime that broke off into an independent republic, and Ernits was actually born and raised in Estonia when it was still part of the Soviet Union and still has family there.

They were shaken by the war, but not surprised.

"We have been watching Putin for

close to 20 years because of Estonia's proximity to Russia. He doesn't have respect for the borders drawn today or any respect for the self-determination of the people," Lagus said. "You know, in 2006 or 2007 there was a cyber-attack on Estonia and it shut down the country, the banks, the ports, for several days. In the olden days, a state of war would have ensued, but that was under the guise of cyber wars. So I thought that's what would happen again. I didn't expect tanks."

He paused to collect his thoughts.

"After all the moral ambiguity of the last decade, it's clear this is a good vs. evil situation," Lagus said.

Now Mark and Leevi are on their own personal crusade. Residents of Bangall since 1999, they are trying to rally their neighbors – not just in their small town, but all over Dutchess County – to show support from Ukraine. From Ukrainian flats to bumper stickers to monetary contributions for food and clothing, Mark and Leevi are a two-person cornerstone hoping to do their small part as Estonians and kindred spirits to their brethren in Ukraine.

Because they know what could happen next.

"It seems like people in the West would be happy if Ukraine made some certain sacrifices and the war would end, but I cannot agree," Leevi said. "Of course, we want the war to end, but Ukraine cannot make concessions. It would be worst thing to happen."

The reason? They, like many, believe Putin has a bigger picture in mind.

"We don't believe he will stop with Ukraine. All the Baltic states would be next," she said.

To that end, Mark and Leevi have been rallying folks to the cause, including a recent speech at Bangallworks, where Mark, who works at GlobalFoundries in East Fishkill, was joined by colleague Ziaus Molla. Bangallworks is a co-working facility in Bangall and hosted the event entitled "A Call to Action for Ukraine and The World We Love."

Molla and his family, including his wife, Nadiia Molla, and mother-in-law, Iryna Antonova, hail from Ukraine's besieged city of Kherson. Nadiia spoke heartbreakingly over the plight of Ukraine and the injustice being wrought upon her people.

"We've seen some remarkable acts of courage in Ukraine and we need those to inspire us here," Mark said. "We want to see the fighting stop, but only with the

continued on page 2

State champs again! Millbrook girls basketball team brings home Class C crown



Members of the Millbrook High School girls basketball team hold the New York State Class C championship trophy and signs after defeating Newark Valley in the title game on Sunday. *Courtesy photo*

by Rich Thomaselli

For the second time in four years, the fire truck lights lit up, the police cars flashed their headlights, the sirens sounded, and cheering people lined the village streets up to Millbrook High School on Sunday afternoon.

The girls basketball team was coming home as the New York State Public High School Athletic Association Class C champions.

Again.

For the second time in four years, Millbrook won a state title, beating Newark Valley, 55-46, at Hudson Valley Community College (HVCC) in Troy.

Millbrook finished the season with a 24-2 record.

Proving they are definitely morning people, the Blazers tipped off the championship game at 10 a.m. on Sunday after winning their semifinal game on Saturday, 58-31, over East Rockaway in a game that started at 9 a.m.

By the time the girls celebrated, did post-game interviews, hugged parents, family and friends, and bid a fond goodbye to HVCC – a veritable home away from home for the program these last few years – they got on the school bus and made the trek south back to Millbrook.

They were met by police and fire department vehicles at Franklin Avenue in the heart of the village, even getting

love from the neighboring town of Union Vale Fire Department along the way, and proceeded to the high school to a full parking lot and their adoring fans.

Sophomore Natalie Fox, whose older sister Erin led the program to its first state title back in 2018 and has since gone on to play on scholarship at Marist College, earned Most Valuable Player honors at this year's tournament. Natalie had 15 points, nine rebounds and four blocks in the championship game and, like her sister, the 6-footer is being heavily recruited by colleges.

Millbrook led the game 33-28 at half-time and doubled that lead heading into the fourth quarter. The Blazers started that final period with an uncharacteristically cold shooting effort, hitting just one of their first 10 shots, potentially leaving Newark Valley an opening to cut into the lead. But Millbrook tightened up on defense at the other end, Newark Valley never got closer than six points, and the Blazers brought home the crown.

Another 6-footer on Millbrook's roster, Emily Grasseler, had 14 points and eight boards, Beth Bosan had 14 points and four steals, and Ella Wilson had nine points and three assists.

And, uh, we don't want to put the onus on the team for next year but - Fox, Grasseler, Bosan and Wilson are all back to make another run at another state championship in 2023.

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Estonian couple warns of Putin's ultimate goal

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"If Putin comes out of this feeling like he didn't lose, it will happen again."

Mark Lagus, Bangall resident whose parents are from Estonia

terms that Ukraine retains its freedom. The sanctions are tough. They are punishing all Russians. But if Putin gets out of this unscathed, it's going to be trouble."

The couple said that for the first time in recent memory, perhaps since the 9/11 attacks more than two decades ago, Americans have been united in terms of their support for Ukraine.

But they also both cautioned that people need to be careful and not be swayed by the events that are taking place instead of focusing on the true culprit. For instance, there has been a heartwarming video circulating on social media showing an entire elementary school in Italy waiting outside for two students arriving as Ukrainian refugees.

"It is lovely. It is heartwarming," Leevi said. "But millions of people had to leave their homes because of this conflict.

People don't want to leave their homes. We want to fight the cause of this, whereas this is the symptom."

Mark and Leevi were both moved by Ukraine President Zelensky's Zoom speech to Congress last week.

"We're trying to galvanize our representatives and hoping that the population gets out ahead of them in wanting to stop what's going on in Ukraine," Mark said. "To us, this is more than just Putin wanting the Soviet Union back together. He's looking at the old Russian Empire. The devil is in the details here. If Putin comes out of this feeling like he didn't lose, it will happen again. It might be the Baltics, but it also might be Finland. He might be more aggressive going after the elections. Who knows? This is literally a fight for the Western order."



Bangall residents Mark Lagus and his wife, Leevi Ernits, are of Estonian heritage and have been shaken by the invasion of Ukraine by Russia and its president, Vladimir Putin. Courtesy photo

Mural by Franc Palaia

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Possibility of Castle Point closure sparks calls for more information

by Kristine Coulter

The Department of Veterans Affairs released its Asset and Infrastructure Review (AIR) report, March 14. One of the facilities in the report is Castle Point VA Medical Center. The report recommends possibly closing Castle Point for the purpose of making upgrades. The AIR Commission will conduct public hearings. It will then submit its own recommendations in 2023 to the president for further review.

“VA came to these recommendations by asking ourselves one question above all else: what’s best for the Veterans we serve? Because that is our number one goal, today and every day. That’s what our Asset and Infrastructure Review recommendations are all about,” said VA Secretary Denis McDonough in a press release. “We’ve spent the last several weeks and months communicating about this with VA employees, union partners, state partners, Veteran service organizations, Congress, and more. I’m continuing to consult with our unions, and will do so moving forward, because I so appreciate the strong partnership we have with them.”

Recommendation for Castle Point, but no ‘decisions’ yet

The recommendation regarding the Castle Point VAMC in the report is “Following the realignment of services, the current Castle Point VAMC will be closed.”

“There have been no announcements or decisions regarding any VA facilities closing, anywhere including Castle Point. VA was required by law to conduct a series of market assessments under the VA MISSION Act to examine future demand for health care services among the Veteran population, which is projected to change in size and location over the next decade. It is important to note that any recommendations to the upcoming AIR Commission are just recommendations,” said Lenox Okall, Public Affairs Specialist for VA Hudson Valley Health Care System Castle Point Campus.

According to the report, the Castle Point VAMC was built in 1923.

“The current infrastructure and layout do not meet modern health care standards, and the existing facility requires significant capital investment. FCA deficiencies total approximately \$115.5 million, and annual operations and maintenance costs total an estimated \$7.6 million. There are 4,998 beds within a 60-minute drive time of the VAMC with an average occupancy rate of 76.1%. With the declining population, low demand, substantial maintenance cost, and high-quality community partners for inpatient care nearby, Veterans can sustainably receive care in the community,” states the report.

“Nothing is changing now for Veteran access to care or VA employees. Any potential changes to VA’s health care infrastructure may be several years away and are dependent on Commission, Presidential, and Congressional decisions and robust stakeholder engagement and planning,” stated Okall.

According to a release about the report, “The report includes recommendations by the VA Secretary to cement the department as the primary, world-class provider and coordinator of Veterans health care for generations to come. The VA MISSION Act requires Secretary McDonough to publish the AIR report in the Federal Register and submit it to Congress and a presidentially appointed AIR Commission.”

The AIR Commission will conduct public hearings as part of its review of VA’s recommendations before submitting its own recommendations to the presi-

dent for further review in 2023.

The report mentions “establishing a new MS CBOC (community-based outpatient clinic) in the vicinity of Fishkill, New York.” The report’s recommendation noted, “The new site will be centrally located to the Veteran population and will be able to address current and future outpatient demand for the Hudson Valley Region, while eliminating operating and maintenance costs at the Castle Point VAMC.”

“The report’s release marks the beginning of an in-depth deliberative process. The AIR report is the result of years of research and analysis intended to help VA build a health care network with the right facilities, in the right places, to provide the right care for all Veterans, including underserved and at-risk Veteran populations in every part of the country — making sure our facilities and services are accessible to Veterans in their communities,” stated the release.

Maloney responds to report on facility

U.S. Rep. Sean Patrick Maloney said in a statement, “I am closely monitoring the new proposals from the VA about the future of health care facilities in the Hudson Valley. I want to assure veterans in the region that these are preliminary proposals, which will be reviewed over the next year by an appointed committee and will require the President’s sign off and Congressional approval before any changes are made to current facilities or resources. I will stand up for our veterans throughout the review process of these proposals, and I will never support changes that reduce access to care for Hudson Valley veterans.”

Maloney said in a letter to VA Sec. McDonough, “Without assurances that a new VA facility in Fishkill or an adjacent community would fully replace the services offered at Castle Point, we have serious concerns that local veterans could face an interruption to their care. As representatives for veterans in the Hudson Valley and surrounding regions, please respond with whether the VA has plans to construct a new facility in the Hudson Valley and the surrounding area, whether such a facility would match or exceed the services provided at Castle Point, and whether this facility and its full complement of services will be included in the

VA’s recommendations.”

Molinaro states ‘there can be no reduction in services’

Dutchess County Executive Marc Molinaro said, “Dutchess County’s veterans have sacrificed so much for our freedom, and these brave men and women deserve the finest care from the nation they defended. There can be no reduction in services, and Castle Point must remain open until any new facility is fully operational.” He continued, “While the recent Veterans Affairs report was voluminous in its recommendations, it leaves too many open-ended questions that should have been addressed prior to blindsiding the community with this announcement. Any plan needs to be coordinated with local healthcare, mental health and government providers.

“We will carefully review each decision and hold the VA accountable throughout the process to ensure no veteran experiences a lapse in the critical programs and services they deserve and have earned through their service to our country. That there has been so little transparency is proof intense public scrutiny is necessary.”

Molinaro stated, “I encourage Dutchess County veterans and their families to fully engage in the process, whenever able to partake, and implore the VA to include local heroes in their decisions.”

Criteria used for report

According to the report, “VA came to our recommendations to the AIR Commission by asking ourselves one question above all else: what is best for the Veterans we serve? The result of asking ourselves that question repeatedly, in markets across the country, is a set of recommendations that will help VA to:

- Cement VA as the primary, world-class provider, and coordinator of Veterans’ health care for generations to come;
- Build a health care network with the right facilities, in the right places, to provide the right care for all Veterans, including underserved and at-risk Veteran populations in every part of the country — making sure that our facilities and services are where the Veterans are;
- Ensure that the infrastructure that makes up VA in the decades ahead reflects the needs of 21st century Veterans

— not the needs and challenges of a health care system that was built, in many cases, 80 years ago; and

• Strengthen VA’s roles as the leading health care researchers in America and — with VA’s academic partnerships — the leading health care training institution in the America.

The recommendations center around improving access to and quality of care for Veterans by ensuring the department’s infrastructure in the decades ahead reflects Veterans’ needs and 21st century design standards. VA is investing heavily in its number one asset — its employees, strengthening its public/private strategic partnerships and elevating its role as the leading health care research entity and the leading health care workforce training institution in the country.”

Serino reacts to recommendations

Senator Sue Serino said, “I govern by listening, so the first thing I did upon hearing this news is reach out to local veterans and veterans organizations. What I have heard, is that while the plan will take many years to implement, Castle Point is in need of significant upgrades and the proposal does offer the opportunity to bring an improved facility to the area. That being said, my top priority is to ensure that our local veterans have consistent access to the healthcare they depend on. We must remain vigilant in holding the federal government accountable to ensure that Castle Point remains open until a new local facility is fully accessible. We will continue to monitor this process closely to ensure that our veterans have convenient access to the services and resources they so deserve.”

Lalor says ‘not acceptable or feasible’ for some veterans to travel out of area

Assemblyman Kieran Lalor said that VA hospitals are on the chopping block “disgraceful and short-sighted.”

Lalor’s statement said, partially, “With regard to Castle Point specifically, some bean-counter in Washington DC is basically saying veterans in Dutchess County or Orange County can just go down to Montrose to get care. That is not acceptable or feasible. Many of our vets have trouble getting transportation to and from Castle Point. Now the VA wants them to go to Westchester.”

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Serino reacts to passage of budget proposal

Editor's note: Sen. Sue Serino released the following statement in response to the passage of the Senate's One-House Budget proposal.

"Today [March 14], the Supermajority approved a one-house budget resolution that includes over \$9 billion in taxpayer dollars over what the Governor proposed. That is a truly staggering number. While this proposal is just that—a proposal—it is nothing more than an unsustainable political wish list.

A number of proposals I have advocated for made it into this proposal, including 'Fair Pay 4 Home Care,' statewide funding for the highly successful Joseph P. Dwyer Veterans Peer Support Program, significant funding for childcare, mental health care, infrastructure and small business assistance, as well as a repeal of the broadband fiber optic fee and more. However, despite the bloated numbers, this proposal still failed to include any significant funding to prevent the spread of Lyme and tick-borne diseases, failed to fully suspend the state gas tax—proposing to do so only partially—and failed to provide adequate funding to bolster programs or fix the broken Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) that has left too many New York renters and small landlords in indefinite limbo. Additionally, while I do not believe that budgets are the proper place to debate policy, this proposal fails to correct any of the public safety problems being exasperated by 'bail reform' and instead includes 'Clean Slate' language that continues to put criminals ahead of law-abiding citizens.

While New York may have the funds available today thanks to significant pandemic response assistance provided by the federal government, too much of the funding their proposal relies on is not continuous. The Supermajority is simply proposing to kick the can down the road for the next generation of elected officials to deal with.

Budgets are about priorities, and the proposal passed today shows that the Supermajority once again has theirs backwards. It is clear that the politicians running Albany have more interest in scoring headlines than advancing realistic proposals that make New York a more affordable place to live.

I voted 'no' today for these reasons and will continue to advocate for a responsible spending plan that meets our community's needs."

Sen. Sue Serino
41st District

More pandemic questions

To the editor:

In a letter in the Northern Dutchess News of March 16 entitled "Red Hook Library follows mission statement, guidelines," the writer states poynter.org criticized Dr. Sucharit Bhakdi, though the writer did not cite any examples.

Poynter.org is funded partly by several large media concerns and the Charles Koch Foundation. (Editor's note: The Poynter Institute is a non-profit organization working in areas of journalism and teaching.)

For reference, here are Dr. Bhakdi's five major points, condensed from his letter to German Chancellor Merkel, printed in this paper in April 2020:

- Disease projections should distinguish between symptomatic and symptom-free.
- A study contended SARS-CoV-2 was no more dangerous than prior corona viruses.
- If the virus has spread to the healthy, symptom-free population, lockdown is ineffective.
- Are corona virus deaths overstated when patient had other issues?
- Are high death rates in some localities affected by issues like severe pollution?

Those look pretty insightful now, particularly the item about overstated and misclassified deaths. The letter did not address any of those. Instead, in Turkish, it asserted that the fact that Pfizer / BioNTek vaccine trials showed no statistically significant reduction in deaths for those over age 70 was unimportant, contending that reducing disease illness was a key measure, even if only by 50%.

Well, OK, now we have over a year of data. What does it show? A New York Times March 3, 2022 graph claimed the unvaccinated are over four times as likely to be hospitalized. But on Feb. 22, the Times cautioned that "The CDC isn't publishing large portions of the COVID data it collects." Hmmn.

How about other places? Public Health Scotland's data shows the vaccinated more likely to have cases, hospitalizations and deaths. Ontario Public Health data shows the case rate per thousand is greater for the vaccinated. Israel data, from early July 2021, shows the vaccinated and unvaccinated equally likely to be COVID-19 cases. The U. K. official data for 2022 week 10 shows little difference in case rates between the vaccinated and unvaccinated for ages 18 and above, with overall cases more likely for the vaccinated.

The world is conducting a mass experiment with a technology (the FDA regards the shot as gene therapy) never before tried in people, with no long-term studies, and disturbing data on reports of death following the shot, far more than the sum of all the last 30 years of vaccine-linked death reports. Now aimed at children, our future.

An information session on other pandemic views will be held Thursday, March 31 at 7 p.m., downstairs at the Community Building, 4 Church Street, Red Hook. If you plan to attend, please e-mail frankstjz@gmail.com.

Frank Stoppenbach
Red Hook

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DEC's ban on burning brush in effect through May 14

New York's annual statewide ban prohibiting brush burning is in effect through May 14.

Since 2009, the NY Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) has enforced the ban to prevent wildfires and protect communities during heightened

conditions for wildfires each spring.

Backyard fire pits and campfires less than three feet in height and four feet in length, width, or diameter are allowed. Small cooking fires are allowed, but only charcoal or dry, clean, untreated, or unpainted wood can be burned.

People should never leave these or any fires unattended and must extinguish them. Burning garbage or leaves is prohibited year-round. For more information about fire safety and prevention, go to DEC's FIREWISE New York website - dec.ny.gov/lands/42524.html.

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- The Northern Dutchess News will not be used as a vehicle to place misinformation.
- Information must be attributed to a specific individual or published item (ie- tell us where or from whom you obtained the information)
- All letters must contain a name, hometown and phone number for verification.
- Letters appearing on the Viewpoints page are the views of the writers alone and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Northern Dutchess News.

Central Hudson audit, billing review and storm response under way

The New York State Public Service Commission (Commission) has approved a third-party independent consulting company to conduct a comprehensive management and operations audit of Central Hudson Gas & Electric Corporation.

The Poughkeepsie-based Central Hudson serves approximately 309,000 electric customers and 84,000 natural gas customers in the mid-Hudson region.

In addition, the Public Service Commission announced a review of Central Hudson's response to the February winter storm that left more than 67,000 homes and businesses without power and it is investigating ongoing billing problems related to the company's recent upgrade to a new billing system that resulted in many customers not receiving timely monthly bills.

"The audit we have launched will examine Central Hudson's electric and gas operations in New York State," said Commission Chair Rory M. Christian. "The audit will also provide an assessment of Central Hudson's grid modernization efforts and examines how the company plans for and manages projects related to the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act or CLCPA. We are also closely examining Central Hudson's storm response efforts, and its ongoing customer-billing problems."

The audit will also examine governance, management, and customer operations, including bill estimation processes. The law provides the Commission the authority to conduct management and operations audits of natural gas and electric utilities. For large electric and natural gas utilities, such as Central Hudson, the

law requires such audits at least once every five years.

As the Commission stated publicly during its February session, it requires detailed scorecard reports from Central Hudson based on the length and severity of the recent winter storm. These publicly filed scorecards serve as a tool for the quantitative assessment of New York State's electric utilities' performance in restoring power to customers after a significant outage. These reports will be thoroughly reviewed by staff, and a determination will be made regarding next steps.

In terms of the recent supply price bill surge, on March 1, 2022, the Commission sent letters to all of New York's major electric and gas utilities, including Central Hudson, requiring them to increase their outreach and education efforts with New Yorkers on the continu-

ing surge in energy supply prices and the impact it will have on utility bills. The Commission sees this outreach as essential considering the increases to utility bills customers are experiencing as a result of the rising cost of fossil fuels.

Department of Public Service staff are also aware of recent billing and customer service issues faced by customers of Central Hudson. An on-going independent investigation is underway. The agency is actively working with the utility to ensure these issues are resolved as soon as possible and appropriate plans are put in place to prevent these situations in the future. The management audit, which will be conducted by Overland Consulting, includes a review of customer information system changes since the last audit and the impact of such changes on customers.

Village Election results

by Kate Goldsmith

The villages of Red Hook, Rhinebeck and Tivoli held their elections on March 15. There were no challengers to any open positions, with mostly incumbents seeking re-election.

RED HOOK

This was a special election to fill the

final year of the Mayor's term and for one Trustee.

Karen Smythe ran unopposed for Mayor, receiving 77 votes. Smythe was appointed Interim Mayor in June 2021 to fill the unexpired term of Ed Blundell, who resigned earlier that year.

Declan Dwyer-McNulty ran unopposed for the position of Trustee, a one-

year term to fill an unexpired term. He received 70 votes; there were also two write-in ballots cast.

RHINEBECK

Two incumbent Trustees, Brant Neuneker and Vanessa Bertozzi, ran unopposed for re-election. Bertozzi received 204 votes and Neuneker received 157. They will each serve two-

year terms.

TIVOLI

Two incumbent Trustees, Emily Mangieri and Emily Majer, ran unopposed for re-election. Majer received 83 votes and Mangieri received 76. Nine write-in votes were cast for Mike McGrinder and 1 for Mike Gonnella.

Migraines are unmanageable

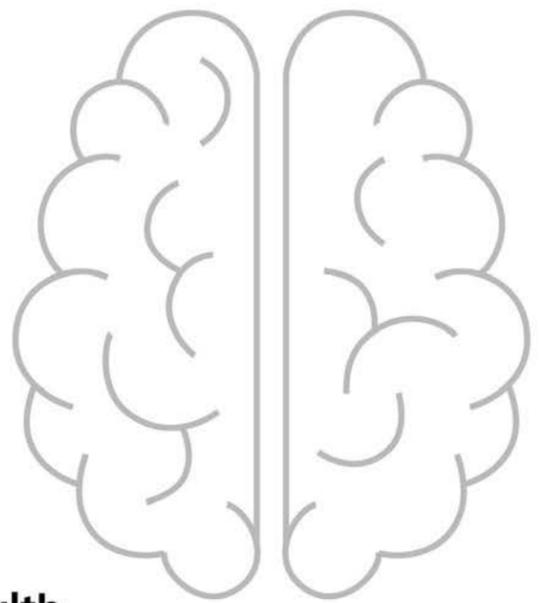
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Northern Dutchess Hospital



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Hyde Park Knights of Columbus hold 28th Annual Lenten Fish Fry

The Hyde Park Knights of Columbus will serve freshly breaded fish each Friday during Lent, except Good Friday.

Your choice of meal entrée includes: fried haddock, baked haddock w/baked potato, fried clam strips, battered shrimp OR breaded scallops. Sides include coleslaw, French fries, roll and dessert. The cost is \$14 - \$16.

Kids Portion (fish or shrimp) is \$10.

Combo Platter - includes fish fillet, scallops, shrimp and clam strips for \$19.

Side Dishes Available: Clam chowder for \$3; Side of fries for \$3; Baked Mac 'n' Cheese for kids is \$6 (full portion \$10).

Take-out only from 5 to 7 p.m. For takeout orders: order when you arrive from parking lot or call, after 4:30 p.m. at (845) 229-6111. You may also order online at <https://kofchyde.park.square.site>

The Hyde Park K of C is located 1 mile north of the East Park Light on Route 9G across street from Moose Club.

Innisfree hosts virtual lecture series

Innisfree Garden is hosting a lunchtime lecture series via Zoom. Lectures all start at 1 p.m. via Zoom. The cost is \$15 (free for Innisfree members); register at <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/innisfreegarden>.

Upcoming events include:

"Painting the Romantic Landscape: Claude Lorraine to the Hudson River School" with John McGiff, Wednesday, March 23;

"Landscape, Poetry and Ecology: Romanticism at Innisfree" with Paul Kane, Wednesday, April 6;

"Romanticism at Innisfree" with Katherine H. Kerin, Wednesday, April 20.

Clinton seeks volunteers for Community Day

The Clinton community is invited to join in on Thursday, March 24, at 6:30pm in the Masonic Hall, to start planning for Community Day. Highway Superintendent Todd Martin would like to invite anyone interested in helping with the Clinton Community Day event to attend this informational meeting. All are welcome. This will be the first meeting to recruit members, establish a Committee, and begin to share ideas to propel the event to success.

Last Rhinecliff Soup Sale for the season set March 24

The Rhinecliff Volunteer Fire Company will hold its final Soup Sale of the season on Thursday, March 24, from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Soup or chili, sold by the quart, is \$10. Take-out only. Pick up at the side window on Orchards Street.

The Rhinecliff Firehouse is at the corner of Shatzell Avenue and Orchard Street in Rhinecliff. To order ahead, email Joe at jobaer2@gmail.com or call the firehouse at (845) 876-6149 beginning at 10:30 a.m. Send an email to be placed on the Soup Email list for future sales.

Chili Bowl Warm Up to benefit Red Hook Community Center

On Friday, March 25, from 5 to 8 p.m., the Red Hook Community Center will host a Chili Bowl Warm Up fundraiser. Choose a bowl, eat the chili and keep the bowl, one-of-a-kind handmade bowls crafted by local artisans.

The cost is \$35 Dine-in or Take Out & Ceramic Bowl; \$20 Dine-in, Meal Only; \$10 Take Out, Meal Only. Meal includes cornbread and dessert.

Visit www.redhookcommunitycenter.org to purchase tickets and for more information.

Maple Weekend returns to Bowdoin Park March 25-27

Dutchess County Parks' Sap Happy Maple Weekend returns with tasty, educational and fun events for all ages in collaboration with the Office for the Aging, Poughkeepsie Public Library, Farmers and Chefs restaurant, and Sean's Waffles Food Truck from Friday, March 25, through Sunday, March 27, at Bowdoin Park, located at 85 Sheafe Road in the Town of Poughkeepsie.

Throughout the weekend, Bowdoin Park Maple Syrup will also be available for purchase at the park for \$5 for 3.4oz or \$10 for 8oz. bottles, while supplies last.

Sap Happy Maple Weekend Schedule:

- Pancakes in the Park Drive-Through for Senior Citizens: March 25, 11:30 a.m.-2 p.m. Free, advance registration required by calling (845) 486-2555.

- Story Walk with Maple Syrup from the Sugarhouse by Laurie Lazzaro Knowlton: March 25-27, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., near the Sugar house. Free, no registration required.

- Hands-On Public Maple Education Classes: March 25-27, sessions at 10 a.m., 12:30 p.m. and 3 p.m. \$5 per person, limit 20 per session. Register at DutchessNY.gov/Parks.

- Bowdoin Park Maple Syrup Menu at Farmers and Chefs Restaurant: March 25-27, while supplies last.

- Sean's Waffle Food Truck at Bowdoin Park: Saturday, March 26, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., near Pavilion 5.

To learn more about these events or other programs offered at Bowdoin Park, call the Dutchess County Parks Division at (845) 298-4600 or visit DutchessNY.gov.

Ag Week event set in Rhinecliff

Rhinebeck Grange and Morton Memorial Library present "Farmer Will Allen and the Growing Table," a reading and learning project, on Saturday, March 26, from 10 to 11 a.m., at Morton Memorial Library & Community House, 82 Kelly St., Rhinecliff.

Join Granger Joe Baer in an animated reading of "Farmer Will Allen and the Growing Table" by Jacqueline Briggs Martin, followed by a hands-on activity of a worm casting/soil experiment. This free event is geared to elementary school-aged children.

Register via EventBrite. Call (845) 875-2903 for more information.

Concerts set at Millbrook Library

The Millbrook Arts Group will present "Southland, Swing & Spain," a monthly concert series, at the Millbrook Library, 3 Friendly Lane. The schedule:

Teresa Broadwell - Swing Violinist and Singer - March 26;

Maria Zemantauski - Flamenco Guitar Master - April 30.

Concerts start at 5 p.m. and end by 7 p.m.

Penny Social at Stanford Grange April 9

Stanford Grange #808 will host a Spring Penny Social on Saturday, April 9, at the Stanford Grange Hall, 6043 Route 82, Stanfordville. Doors will open at 5:30 p.m. (strictly enforced) and calling begins at 7 p.m. There will be penny prizes, \$1 table, homemade baked goods, theme baskets, 50/50 drawing and door prizes. Spring and Easter items will be featured. The Grange Youth will have refreshments for sale. Total proceeds benefit continuing maintenance for the Stanford Grange Hall and the Scholarship Fund. For more

information, contact Grange Secretary Ryan Orton at (845) 868-7869 or Therese Fallon at (845) 868-1700.

Financial Literacy Seminar set April 28

Rhinebeck Bank & United Way of the Dutchess-Orange Region will present a free webinar on Thursday, April 28 from 10 to 11:30 a.m. This free online webinar will cover "An Introduction to Credit: Important terms and best practices when applying for credit cards and loans" and "Planning for College: An introductory look at known (and unknown) college costs and how to pay for them." Register via <https://www.uwdor.org/>.

Miles of Hope Spring Brunch set May 15

Save the date for the 18th Annual Spring Brunch to benefit the Miles of Hope Breast Cancer Foundation. The event will be held on Sunday, May 15, starting at 11 a.m. with a ceremony followed by a reception with catered buffet, live music, raffle/silent auction items and more.

This year, the event will be held at the Hudson River Rowing Association Boathouse at 272 North Water St. in Poughkeepsie. Honorees include BMW of the Hudson Valley, Poughkeepsie South Rotary, and Joan O'Neill & Eileen Gannon. To register and for more information, visit <https://milesofhope.org/>.

United Way to hold

Celebration of Service on May 24

The United Way will hold its annual Celebration of Service on Tuesday, May 24, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., at The Grandview in Poughkeepsie. The organization will honor Adams Fairacre Farms with the Distinguished Service Award. The celebration will be held, in person. Tickets are \$150 (\$125 for United Way's nonprofit partners). The program will feature a performance by the winner of the 2022 Talent United contest.

For more information, contact Susan Marchewka at (845) 471-1900 ext 3126 or email events@uwdor.org.

Wilderstein sets summer fundraiser

Wilderstein Historic Site in Rhinebeck will hold its Summer Celebration Benefit Fundraiser on Saturday, July 9, from 5 to 8 p.m. The theme is the "Roaring 20s," with food and libations, silent auction, house tours, music and fun. Visit www.wilderstein.org or call (845) 876-4818 for more information.

Poughkeepsie Book Festival with 40-plus authors set April 2

The annual Poughkeepsie Book Festival returns on Saturday, April 2, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

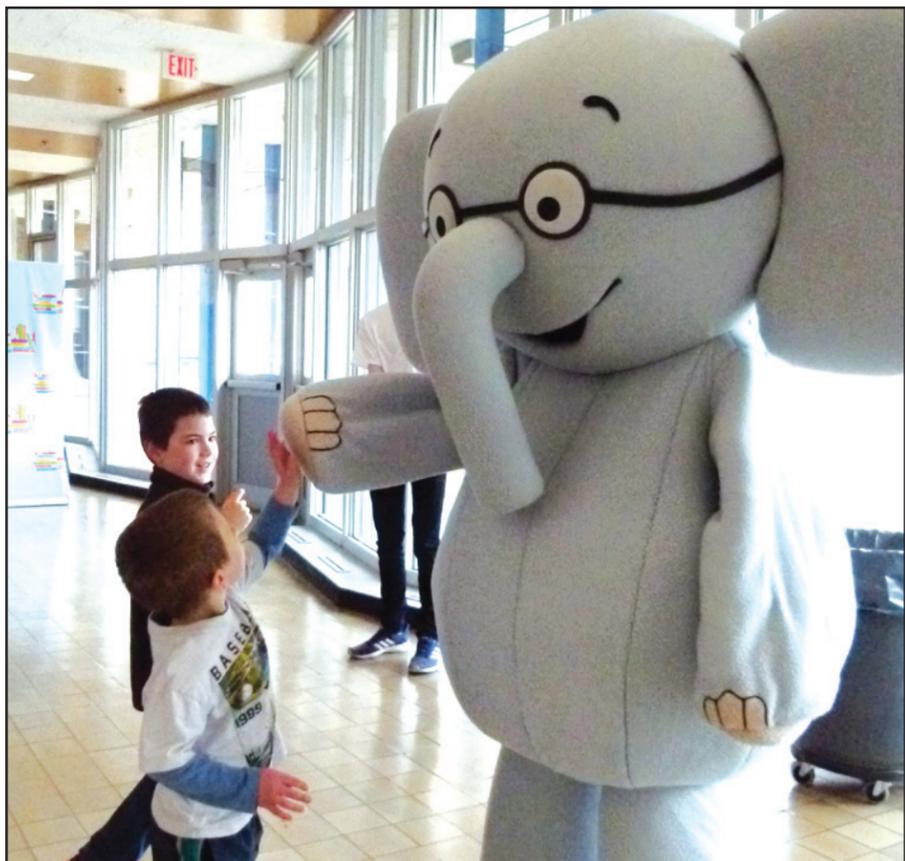
More than 40 authors and illustrators of youth literature will converge on Poughkeepsie High School, eager to meet young readers and share their passion for books. Chris Grabenstein, who wrote the New York Times bestselling "Escape from Mr. Lemoncello's Library," will be there. Pat Schories, who illustrated the Biscuit books for children, will also be participating, and costumed characters, including Curious George and Elephant and Piggie, will be strolling around high-fiving their fans and posing for photos.

The Poughkeepsie Book Festival is a free, family event designed for kids of all

ages. There will be books available for purchase and signing, craft activities, photo ops with story book characters, and several vendors of programs and services geared toward children and youth.

The festival is presented in collaboration with the City of Poughkeepsie Schools and the Friends of PPLD. Free parking is available in lots surrounding the Poughkeepsie High School at 70 Forbus Street. Attendees can also visit Rover the Roaming Library, the Library District's bookmobile, parked in front of the high school.

Find a complete list of participating authors and illustrators on the PPLD website poklib.org under Events.



Left: Children's book author Diana Murray greets visitors at the 2019 Poughkeepsie Book Festival. Above: Kids greet book character "Elephant." Courtesy photos



SUBMIT COMMUNITY CALENDAR EVENTS:
northerndutchess@sdutchessnews.com

Early bond payoff to deliver \$1.55 million in taxpayer savings

Dutchess County Executive Marcus Molinaro has announced the county is again planning to do an early payoff of callable bonds to take advantage of more than \$1.5 million in savings, pending approval of the Dutchess County Legislature. The Department of Finance plans to pay off \$8,595,000 in debt principal on bonds originally issued in 2014, with payments scheduled through 2034. The early payoff will provide for \$1,552,142 in interest savings. The early retirement of debt is part of Dutchess County's smart, fiscally sound debt management strategy to save tax dollars and deliver those dollars back to residents.

Debt service is utilized to finance capital expenditures such as road and bridge projects, equipment acquisition, building construction and renovations, and other authorized activities. The County's operating budget includes annual payment of principal and interest through "debt service." As the county issues new debt, older debt is retired, helping to keep the county's annual operating expenditures stable. Dutchess County remains fiscally conservative with its use of debt – utilizing only 8.8% of the County's total constitutional debt limit. According to a 2020 New York State Comptroller Report, Dutchess County's debt per capita is 50 percent lower than the statewide average.

Standard & Poor's (S&P) Rating Services recently reaffirmed Dutchess

County Government's AA+ bond rating – the highest S&P rating of any county in New York State – for the county's most recent debt issuance, which totaled \$70.2 million. This issuance finances numerous critical projects and investments approved by the County Legislature including highway and bridge improvements, Partnership for Manageable Growth, HVAC projects, Urban Trail project, the Dutchess County Justice & Transition Center and more. Although interest rates have been rising over the past few months, rates are still at historically low levels and the county was able to issue this debt at favorable rates ranging from 2.64 percent to 3.00 percent.

The county's bond rating was an important component in securing the low interest rates for the new bonds. S&P has consistently recognized Dutchess County's strong management, strong economy and strong budgetary practices and performances as key factors in its continued assignment of an AA+ bond rating. In its most recent rating, S&P highlighted the county's very strong general fund reserves and low overall net debt, noting "manageable additional capital needs."

As noted in the S&P report, the county's 2020 Year End Audited Financial Statements demonstrate the county's strong fiscal foundation, including an unassigned fund balance of just over \$60

million, an increase of more than \$3 million from 2019. The county's Fund Balance Policy states the goal of maintaining an undesignated/general fund balance of 1-2 months of general fund operating expenditures in the general fund balance as a means of maintaining financial stability, which would range from \$38 to \$76 million. With the unassigned fund balance well within this target range, the County has been taking proactive steps to pay down or avoid indebtedness as well as provide property tax relief.

The 2022 County Budget included a historic \$20 million in cumulative tax relief, including the eighth consecutive property tax reduction as well as the elimination of the sales tax on clothing and footwear items costing less than \$110 per item. Additionally, over the past several months, the county has been paying off existing debt when allowable (or callable) and funding capital purchases utilizing fund balance rather than issuing additional debt.

Recent examples include:

- Annual vehicle purchase for 2021 totaling \$1.4 million was paid utilizing fund balance rather than a capital bond as has been past practice, saving \$50K in interest costs.

- \$1.25 million in various Dutchess

Community College capital projects including plumbing and repairs paid utilizing fund balance rather than a capital bond, resulting in \$388K interest savings.

- Early payoff of \$4.9 million in remaining principal from bonds issued in 2012-2013, resulting in \$470K interest savings and \$4.9 million in overall debt reduction including \$1 million debt service reduction for 2022.

- Recently approved Emergency Response vehicle purchases totaling \$2.1 million to be funded from fund balance rather than capital bond financing, saving \$476K in interest costs.

- Recently approved countywide Radio Communication System Project to be funded utilizing fund balance (as well as American Rescue Plan and New York State SICG grant funding) rather than capital bond financing, saving \$907K in interest costs.

- Bus facility improvements and building roof projects paid utilizing fund balance rather than a capital bond – saving \$636K in interest costs.

The resolution authorizing the early payoff was reviewed at the County Legislature's Budget, Finance and Personnel Committee on March 10. The full County Legislature was expected to vote to authorize the payoff at its March 14 board meeting.

Barrett appointed to Assembly Climate Change Working Group

Assemblymember Didi Barrett (D-Dutchess/Columbia) announced that she was appointed by Speaker Carl E. Heastie to serve on the New York State Assembly Climate Change Working Group.

"As a member of both the Assembly Environmental Conservation Committee and the Assembly Agriculture Committee, I have long supported a multi-sector approach to reaching our essential climate goals," said Barrett. "I want to thank Speaker Heastie for this opportunity to help ensure New York State employs all the available tools to reach our clean energy targets, create new jobs and advance relevant legislation."

"Since the Assembly Climate Change Workgroup convened in 2015, we have taken critical steps to make New York a safer, healthier and greener place to live and work," said Heastie. "I am proud to appoint Assemblymember Didi Barrett to join the workgroup so they can continue their important work. I'm confident she

will bring a new perspective and new ideas so that we can keep making our state more sustainable for generations to come."

For her environmental advocacy, Barrett has received high marks in the New York League of Conservation Voters' (NYLCV) annual Environmental Scorecard. In 2021, she received a score of 96 and received perfect scores in 2020 and 2019.

In 2019, Barrett supported the New York State Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act, which implemented the state's renewable energy goals for 2030, and has been a pioneering advocate for carbon sequestration and regenerative agricultural practices. Her landmark Carbon Farming Act legislation that led to a five county carbon farming pilot in the Hudson Valley has served as a model for other states, and her work in this sector has garnered national recognition.

Jacobson announces gun violence prevention funding for youth groups

Assemblymember Jonathan Jacobson (D-Newburgh) announced a combined total of \$145,000 in state funding for youth organizations operating in the cities of Poughkeepsie and Newburgh. Granted last year through the New York State Office of Children and Family Services and administered by the county youth bureaus, the funding is directed to organizations that offer extracurricular activities to local youth.

Jacobson said, "There continues to be an alarming uptick in gun violence in the Cities of Poughkeepsie and Newburgh, so I am grateful New York State stepped in to provide extra funding for organizations like Newburgh Elite Track and the Boys & Girls Club. We need to give kids

something to say "yes" to by providing alternatives to gangs and drugs. By doing so, we will help kids stay off the streets.

"This funding allowed organizations to expand its programming and increase local youth participation in activities ranging from boxing, track and basketball to media production, farming, and the performing arts," Jacobson continued.

The organizations that received funding are the Newburgh Ministry, Newburgh Urban Food and Farm, Newburgh Armory Unity Center, the Zion Lions, Newburgh Elite Track, the Boys & Girls Club of Newburgh and Poughkeepsie, Real Skills, Rebuilding Our Children and community, and Nubian Directions II.

COUNTY'S HIGH-SPEED INTERNET SURVEY CLOSES MARCH 31

Time is running out for residents, nonprofits and business owners — both with and without Internet access — to complete Dutchess County's High-Speed Internet Access Survey.

The survey takes just five minutes and, by completing it, you can help the county better understand where to invest in infrastructure and develop a plan to ensure access to this critical utility for students, businesses, nonprofits and government agencies alike.

Those without internet access can visit their local library or Senior Friendship Center to fill out the survey, or they can contact the Department of Emergency Response at (845) 486-2080 or email broadband@dutchessny.gov for assistance.

The survey is the county's first step in investing \$1 million of the Federal Government's American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds in critical communications infrastructure as part of the County's "Dutchess Invests" program, which was announced in June 2021.

Learn more about the project at dutchessny.gov/highspeedinternet.

Fifteen years goes by in a flash

We're pleased to let you know that the Bank of Millbrook is now offering a 15-year, fixed-rate mortgage. It's a terrific option to get your house paid off faster at a secured rate and to save money at the same time.

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Laerdal leader who lives with heart disease to chair 2022 Heart Challenge in the Hudson Valley

Donna Kosack's family and her own health history have made her a strong advocate for educating people about heart disease.

"How many people don't know they have heart disease, or don't know the signs and symptoms?" Kosack, Systems Adoption Manager at Laerdal Medical, asked. "I'm chairing the 2022 Heart Challenge to help raise awareness."

The 2022 Dutchess-Ulster Heart Walk is part of the Heart Challenge, and is set for Saturday, April 30, at The Walkway Over the Hudson State Historic Park. To ensure safety for all participants, the Walk will let people begin walking any

time they like between 9 and 11 a.m.

Kosack always knew she needed to be diligent about her heart health. When she was in her 20s, her uncle, then in his 40s, had his first heart attack. Her father and grandfather had also had heart disease. But after her mother was diagnosed with cancer for the second time, Kosack was sitting on her couch and felt pressure in her chest. At the physical she had scheduled for the next day, doctors detected a heart murmur and sent her to a cardiologist.

Kosack was surprised to learn she had a bicuspid aortic valve – a congenital heart defect which means that her heart valve has two flaps instead of the custom-

ary three – which has created an aortic aneurysm.

Kosack immediately had her two daughters and son checked to make sure this isn't something they inherited. They don't have it.

"I'm monitored closely for the aortic aneurysm," Kosack said. "If it gets too big, doctors will operate on it, and replace my valve at the same time."

Kosack credits American Heart Association events with making her more aware of heart disease. Laerdal is a long-time sponsor of the Dutchess-Ulster Heart Walk and Kosack has volunteered and participated in AHA events in the 14 years she has worked at Laerdal. She was also a member of the BetterU program in the Hudson Valley, a 12-week heart-health improvement program for women that is celebrated at the Go Red for Women Luncheon.

"I find takeaways at Heart Association events each year," she said, "and I try to educate myself and others about heart issues wherever I can."

Kosack has also followed the Heart Association's health advice.

"We all have a heart, and we need to protect it," Kosack said. "I avoid eating anything that could build up calcium in my arteries, abstain from smoking, practice good dental hygiene and drink lots of water. Exercise is also so important, yet challenging. I do aim for 8,000 to 10,000 steps a day, and have set a goal this year to bike 77 miles to Manhattan starting at the Dutchess Rail Trail.

"My message to the community is, look out for your health and take care of each other. We all need to get back outside and what better way than the Heart Walk? By being part of this event, you are joining in heart health and continuing to improve the lives of the people you love.

"As a community, let's also be there to help the continued efforts of the AHA by investing. By investing time and money we continue the mission of the AHA, which is helping many people lead better and healthier lives. The Heart Association provides educational information, teaches CPR and of course, invests in research."

"It's great to be having an in-person event again, and Donna is a terrific leader for this," said Sunny Intwala, M.D., cardiologist at Nuvance Health and president of the Dutchess-Ulster Board of Directors for the American Heart Association. "Her perspective as a survivor reminds us that it can be surprising who suffers from heart disease. Laerdal is a longtime supporter, and Donna has been a longtime participant. She is an enthusiastic and dedicated leader. We're grateful that she is chairing the campaign."

Kosack lives in East Fishkill with husband, daughters and son.

The Dutchess-Ulster Heart Walk raises funds so the American Heart Association can continue to fund research and community programs to fight the No. 1 and No. 5 killers in America, heart disease and stroke.

Spring Naturalist Programming returns at Dutchess County parks

Dutchess County Parks has curated a lineup of naturalist programming for residents of all ages this spring season. There is something for everyone with archery, park palette art sessions and eaglet nature program. Program registration is now under way at DutchessNY.gov/ParksEducation.

County Executive Marc Molinaro said, "With the weather warming up, we are excited for a great lineup of our popular naturalist programming. Our spring program schedule offers fun and educational opportunities to try new activities while enjoying the scenery at the beautiful Bowdoin Park. Don't wait to register, these programs will fill up fast!"

Here is the schedule:

- Adult Park Palette will be held on Thursday, June 9 at Bowdoin Park on the deck at the Maple Knoll Lodge 5:30-7 p.m. and is open to ages 18 and up. Create a spectacular nature themed sunset as seen from the park. Cost is \$12 (includes all supplies). Limit: 12 participants.

- Park Palette Art Series for ages 10-18 will be held at Bowdoin Park from 3:30-5 p.m. in Pavilion 5. These classes take students through a step-by-step learning opportunity to create nature themed paintings. Students can choose one workshop or take all three. Cost is \$12 (includes all supplies). Limit: 12 participants per session. Thursday, May 19 – Campfire, Thursday, June 2 – Tree Frogs, Thursday, June 16 – At the Lake

- Eaglet Nature Program returns for youth ages 5 to 7, along with their parents or caregivers, at Bowdoin Park's Nature Education Center. Through interactive exploration and play, children will have the opportunity to take a closer look at the unique natural habitats, with each week

focusing on a different topic with a craft being made at the end of the class. All classes will be offered 4-4:45 p.m. Registration is \$5 per child. Limit: 12 participants. Tuesday, May 24 – Spotting animals in the wild, Tuesday, June 7 – Building a mini village and learning about tribes and trade, Tuesday, June 21 – Pond study

- Weekend Public Archery sessions will begin Saturday, April 9 at Bowdoin Park. The archery program consists of five classes, held on Saturdays, with various time slots offered. The sessions, each an hour long, are designed for children ages 8 and up, and adults with any level of archery experience. Basic hands-on archery skills are taught, as well as bow and arrow safety. Cost is \$60 per person and includes all five classes and equipment. Limit: 20 participants per time slot.

- Intro Adult Survival 1 will be held Saturday, April 30, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Bowdoin Park. This immersive one-day program is for ages 18 and up and covers the basics of survival education, including how to build several types of shelters and build a fire from scratch. This program is a prerequisite for Adult Survival 2, which will be a weekend overnight session June 11 and 12 at Wilcox Memorial Park in Milan. Adult Survival 2 goes deeper into wilderness survival education, including testing skills in an open campout setting. Space is limited and registration is \$40 per person, per session.

All programs are held outdoors, unless otherwise noted. Participants should dress appropriately for weather conditions.

To learn more about Dutchess County Parks, visit DutchessNY.gov/Parks.

DEC adopts new regulations for freshwater fishing in NY

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) Commissioner Basil Seggos has announced the adoption of new freshwater fishing regulations that will take effect on April 1.

Following a public comment period on the draft proposals earlier this year, the new regulations reflect the input received and the support of the angling community in DEC's efforts to make fishing New York's waters less complicated and easier to understand.

"The new regulations adopted today coupled with the reformatted Freshwater Fishing Regulations Guide reflect DEC's sustained commitment to ensuring the enjoyment of both novice and expert anglers in New York State by making fishing easy and accessible," Commissioner Seggos said. "Amendments to freshwater fishing regulations provide greater consistency and significantly reduce special regulations while still maintaining protective measures to sustain the health of the State's fisheries."

DEC is implementing changes to reduce the number of special regulations while still providing the protections necessary to ensure sustainable fisheries, including changing some statewide regulations for certain species and eliminating special regulations that are no longer necessary. Some of the new statewide regulations were already broadly applied via special regulations. Some special regulations are still necessary, particularly for waters that require unique management strategies to achieve desired fisheries outcomes, but DEC has significantly reduced the number of special regulations. Additional changes include opening the season for all sportfish on a hard date and allowing ice fishing in waters inhabited by trout in most of the state."

DEC also adopted more conservative harvest regulations for sunfish to protect populations from over-harvest and

increased the minimum size limit for crappie to 10 inches to improve the stability and size structure of populations. DEC also placed experimental regulations on 11 waters to determine if larger sunfish can be produced under a 15-fish-per-day harvest limit and an eight-inch minimum size limit.

Notable changes

A complete compilation of changes and an assessment of public comment associated with the final rulemaking is available on the DEC website at dec.ny.gov/outdoor/124258.html. Major regulation changes include:

- New statewide regulation for rainbow, brown trout, and splake in lakes and ponds. The season will now be open year-round, with a five-fish daily limit, any size, with a "no more than two longer than 12 inches" harvest rule;

- Statewide Atlantic salmon regulations will now allow for a year-round open season.

- Ice fishing is permitted on all waters in New York unless specifically prohibited with the exception of Essex, Franklin, Fulton, Hamilton, Herkimer, Lewis, St. Lawrence, Warren, and Washington counties where previous rules remain;

- New specific dates replaced floating dates for statewide season openers to include: May 1 - Walleye, Northern Pike, Pickerel and Tiger Muskellunge; June 1 – Muskellunge. Note that in 2022, DEC will allow for the fishing of muskellunge beginning the last Saturday in May to accommodate previously planned fishing trips; June 15 - Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass. A five-fish daily walleye limit in Oneida Lake; A new regulation to limit the growth of the walleye population in Skaneateles Lake. No daily possession limit; 12-inch minimum size limit, open year-round; The statewide sunfish daily harvest limit has been reduced from 50 to 25 fish; and The statewide minimum size limit for crappie has been increased from nine inches to 10.

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Traditional Okinawan Karate students compete in Spring Shiai



Patrick Roach of Clinton Corners demonstrates a jumping forward roll during the Spring Shiai and testing at the Vassar College Gym. *Courtesy photo*

Traditional Okinawan Karate students participated in the Spring Shiai and testing at the Vassar College Gymnasium on Saturday, March 5.

The event drew students from five locations. It included students from New Paltz Karate, and Traditional Okinawan Karate schools in Pleasant Valley, East Fishkill, plus students from Brooklyn and Kinnelon, NJ.

Groups of students performed self-defense demonstrations and kata (martial arts forms consisting of striking, blocking and kicking combinations).

The final segment of the Shiai was the promotion of the students who had been tested earlier in the day. The highest promotions were those at black-belt level:

- Junior Black Belt: Tyler Kivell, Vianey Matias, Patrick Roach, Stephen

Schwartz

- Shodan (First degree black belt): Ryan Bair, Tyler Campbell, Madison Freideman, Gala Fries-Enell

- Nidan (Second degree black belt): Ruy Alencar, Rick Alfandre, Alex Camacho, Jamie Meluso

- Sandan (Third Degree black belt): Ross Kivell, Kevin Newman

- Yodan (Fourth Degree black belt): (none)

- Godan (Fifth Degree black belt): Steve Borland

- Rokudan (Sixth Degree black belt): Deena Levitz, Christopher Miller

Traditional Okinawan Karate has Dutchess County locations in Pleasant Valley and East Fishkill. They can be reached at (845) 635-1426 (Pleasant Valley) or (845) 797-2258 (East Fishkill).

American Red Cross testing for COVID-19 antibodies, March donors eligible for e-gift-card and chance to win trip for 2

For a limited time, the American Red Cross has resumed testing all blood, platelet and plasma donations for COVID-19 antibodies. Plasma from routine donations that have high levels of COVID-19 antibodies may be used as convalescent plasma to help meet the needs of COVID-19 patients with weakened immune systems. At the same time, the Red Cross blood supply remains vulnerable, and individuals are urged to schedule a blood or platelet donation.

All who come to give blood or platelets in March will get a \$10 e-gift card, thanks to Fanatics. Plus, donors will also automatically be entered for a chance to win a trip for two to the 2022 MLB® All-Star Game® in Los Angeles, California, when you come to give March 1-31. The package includes two tickets to 2022 MLB® All-Star Saturday, the 2022 Home Run Derby, and the 2022 MLB® All-Star Game®, round-trip airfare to Los Angeles, four-night hotel accommodations (July 16-20, 2022), plus a \$750 gift card for expenses (Details available at rcblood.org/team).

In the days and weeks ahead, it's critically important the Red Cross maintains a readily available blood supply so hospital patients can receive the care they need. To make an appointment, use the Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit RedCrossBlood.org or call 1-800-RED

CROSS (1-800-733-2767).

Antibody testing will indicate if the donor's immune system has produced antibodies to this coronavirus following vaccination or infection, regardless of whether they developed symptoms. Donations will be tested using samples pulled at the time of donation and sent to a testing laboratory where they will also undergo routine infectious disease testing. A positive antibody test result does not confirm infection or immunity.

COVID-19 antibody test results will be available 1-2 weeks after donation in the Red Cross Blood Donor App or donor portal at RedCrossBlood.org. The Red Cross is not testing donors to diagnose illness, referred to as a diagnostic test.

All who come to give blood or platelets in March will get a \$10 e-gift card, thanks to Fanatics. Plus, donors will also automatically be entered for a chance to win a trip for two to the 2022 MLB® All-Star Game® in Los Angeles, California, when you come to give March 1-31. The package includes two tickets to 2022 MLB® All-Star Saturday, the 2022 Home Run Derby, and the 2022 MLB® All-Star Game®, round-trip airfare to Los Angeles, four-night hotel accommodations (July 16-20, 2022), plus a \$750 gift card for expenses. (Details available at rcblood.org/team)

COVID-19 QUICK FACTS – DUTCHESS COUNTY

(as of March 20)

Active cases: 116 (up from 104 on March 12)
Community transmission: 9.53 per 100,000 (up from 8.85 on March 12)
Hospitalizations due to COVID-19: 1 (down from 7 on March 12)
Hospitalizations of individuals with COVID-19: 5 (down from 12 on March 12)
Total deaths: 654 (was 651 as of March 12)
% population 18+ with at least one dose of vaccine: 85.18 (slightly up from March 12, when it was 85.1)
% of total county population with at least one dose of vaccine: 76.71 (slightly up from 76.62 on March 12)
% of total county population that has completed their vaccine series: 69.07 (slightly up from 68.96 on March 12)

The county dashboard doesn't include data on boosters; however, according to the CDC, 50.9 percent of the county's fully vaccinated population has received a booster, up slightly from 50.7 percent on March 12.

Currently, the CDC classifies Dutchess as a **low-risk** county.

Town of Clinton seeks to fill Planning Board vacancy

The Town of Clinton has a vacancy on the Planning Board that it seeks to fill.

The Planning Board is responsible for guiding development of land and growth within the Town of Clinton in accordance with the Zoning Law and its amendments, and the subdivision regulations. The Planning Board reviews and approves development in the Town of

Clinton, meeting at 7:30 p.m. on the first and third Tuesdays of the month.

If you are interested in joining the Planning Board, send a letter of interest and resume to Townsupervisor@townof-clinton.com, or you drop it off during business hours at the office in the Schoolhouse Building. All letters and resumes should be received by April 1.

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The Ridge School

www.ridgeschool.org

DC Criminal Justice Council report highlights extensive collaboration among agencies

The Dutchess County Criminal Justice Council (CJC) has released its 2021 Annual Report, highlighting the ongoing collaboration between numerous Dutchess County departments, community organizations, law enforcement agencies, and justices to maximize resources and continually enhance the criminal justice system. The CJC's continuum of services and interventions has been recognized as a state and national model for reducing recidivism and ensuring community safety.

During 2021, agencies throughout the criminal justice system creatively adapted to conducting meetings and court sessions virtually and continued providing essential services, including pre-trial diversion services, re-entry programming, training for first responders, and many others despite the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

Additionally, agencies have continued to adapt to the impacts following the recent state Bail Reform legislation and changes to Discovery rules. In 2020 and 2021, Dutchess County agencies have struggled to provide services such as pre-trial intervention, probation, or other alternatives-to-incarceration programs that offenders would have been connected to prior to bail reform. Similarly, district attorneys throughout the state have grappled with recent reform to the discovery process, as onerous timelines and protocols that accompanied the reform have forced prosecutors to often drop prosecution of many cases, putting victims and witnesses at even more risk and allowing defendants back on the streets, often to re-offend.

Kevin Warwick, member of the CJC's Special Populations Workgroup and nationally recognized criminal justice consultant from Alternative Solutions Associates Inc., said, "Dutchess County is the only county in the country with such an extensive coordination of services, collaboration between agencies, and activities throughout its entire criminal justice system. From intervening with those at-risk of committing crimes to helping offenders successfully re-enter the community and reduce their risk of re-offending."

The CJC is comprised of 10 committees covering various topics and populations within the system. In 2021, the CJC's various committees have worked to investigate trends in data related to recidivism and incarceration, improve

services for juveniles in the criminal justice system, and initiate strategies and interventions to overall improve the criminal justice system. Among the 2021 committee activities:

- The Quality Assurance Committee (QA) continued multiple analyses of the Dutchess County Jail (DCJ) population to better understand the reality of the existing criminal justice system and inform policy making. The committee has also begun studying the impact of Bail Reform. Retrospectively, the committee's analysis showed reincarceration rates of nearly 50 percent among those previously held for Misdemeanor and Non-Violent Felony offenses, which are now non-qualifying offenses under Bail Reform. The analysis also verified that yearly DCJ admissions for non-qualifying offenses declined by nearly 1,500 and that, unless sentenced, people arrested for such offenses can no longer benefit from the County's successful RESTART program, which has been proven to reduce individuals' risk to re-offend. The committee will continue to objectively evaluate prospective impacts of Bail Reform and will assist in developing innovative policies and practices.

- The Re-Entry and Special Populations sub-committees advocated and supported the expansion of Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) at the DCJ to include induction and maintenance for individuals with substance use disorders. A case manager was also tasked with ensuring a smooth transition for program participants re-entering the community.

- With a technical assistance grant awarded in partnership with the NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services and the Office of Probation and Community Corrections, the Juvenile Justice Committee has been working with the Robert F. Kennedy National Resource Center for Juvenile Justice and other county stakeholders to review the entire juvenile justice system to identify areas for enhancement and work has begun on the project's first recommendation – choosing a trauma screening instrument linked to community resources. This is especially important considering the significant increase in a need for youth mental health services due to lingering negative impacts on young people's social and academic development following the isolation of virtual schooling.

- The Police Reform and

Modernization Committee, the CJC's newest committee, completed its police modernization plan in conjunction with the Dutchess County Sheriff's Office and other law enforcement agencies as well as significantly increased the diversity of the pool of candidates applying for the police exam.

- Assessing the needs of domestic violence and other victims and survivors was the focus of the Victims and Justice-Involved Women's committees in 2021, including a partnership with Marist College to develop surveys to identify additional service needs due to the pandemic and to analyze the results to implement strategies to better meet the needs of both victims and women.

- Gender-responsive strategies and programs were also addressed in 2021 and a residential center for women, operated by Project M.O.R.E., is scheduled to open early this year. The residence for women will open additional beds for male residents at the Re-Entry transitional housing center in the Town of Poughkeepsie. This will also permit expansion of existing programs as well as introducing the new RECHARGE (Re-Entry Community Housing and Resource Guided Empowerment) program. RECHARGE will be the next step for participants in the County's successful jail-based RESTART program. Once individuals are released from DCJ, RECHARGE will assist with finding permanent housing, employment, education, and other supports necessary to successfully re-enter the community and not re-offend.

Additional highlights from 2021 include:

- Secured funding through the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services for a 16th year of re-entry programming, which is provided by Exodus Transitional Community at the Re-Entry Center, located at 97-99 Cannon St. in the City of Poughkeepsie:

- Provided assessment services to 260 individuals

- 162 participants completed the anger management program

- 107 participants completed the Ready, Set, Work program

- 146 participants found employment

- Worked with Exodus and Community House Initiatives to evaluate and increase services at the 8-bed, 90-day

transitional housing facility for homeless parolees on North Hamilton Street in Poughkeepsie, including:

- Adding Moral Reconciliation Therapy Classes

- Partnered with Vassar College to offer college credit courses with both Vassar students and six formerly incarcerated individuals participating.

- RESTART was held virtually in 2021 thanks to collaboration between program and corrections staff.

- The Special Populations Committee continued to review and provide input for the design of the programming units of the new Justice and Transitions Center to ensure physical layout and programming needs continue to be aligned.

- The Diversion Committee assisted in offering Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) to local law enforcement agencies. Since 2015, 442 law enforcement officers and 32 emergency dispatchers have completed the 40-hour training with an additional 179 officers and Corrections Officers completing the Basic CIT 8-hour course. This results in 79 percent of active county law enforcement being trained.

- The Community Involvement Committee participated in and presented many virtual public forums, including on the Dutchess County Judicial Drug/Diversion Program (Drug Court) with graduates from the program sharing their experiences and community experts discussing new approaches to helping individuals with substance use disorders.

- The Centralized Arraignment Committee continued to research the efficacy of Centralized Arraignment in Dutchess County for after-hours criminal arraignments to provide these court proceedings more efficiently.

JJC Chair and Director of the Office of Probation and Community Corrections, Mary Ellen Still, said, "We are grateful to have so many agencies and facets of the criminal justice system represented on the Criminal Justice Council. Despite the challenges the past year has put on the system, we are united in our commitment to continuing to improve the system and ensuring those within the system receive fair and equitable treatment and our community is safer for all."

For more information on the Dutchess County Criminal Justice Council, visit dutchessny.gov.

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DOT-TO-DOT PUZZLE

See page 18 for finished puzzle (no peeking!)

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Stars

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By David Kalvitis © 2011 Monkying Around

DC Comptroller Lois partners with Vet Zero on financial seminar series for veterans

Dutchess County Comptroller Robin Lois has partnered with Hudson River Housing and VetZero to provide local veterans with a free educational series devoted to maintaining financial health, as well as utilizing veteran-specific government services. In consideration of the COVID-19 pandemic, Part 1 of the series will include a brief presentation by the New York State Comptroller's Office to provide further guidance within the realm of pandemic-related relief. A free dinner will also be provided by a local Poughkeepsie eatery.

"I am happy to partner with VetZero and the New York State Comptroller's Office to provide vital financial information to our local Veterans. It's important that our Veterans know what financial

resources and tools are available, and our Offices are here to bring it to them conveniently in one place," said Lois.

Part 1: Personal Finances, will be on Tuesday, April 12, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m., at the Poughkeepsie VFW Post 170, 1 Violet Avenue, Poughkeepsie. Part 1 will cover how to balance a personal budget, understanding and raising credit scores, and filing income taxes. Veterans who wish to attend are advised to bring their tax documents, bank statements, and any other questions they might have. Resources will be available on site to provide direct assistance.

Parts 2 and 3 of the series are scheduled for the Summer and Fall, with details to be provided in the coming weeks.

DiNapoli: Former Rhinebeck employee arrested for working side job on village time, falsifying time sheets and mileage

On March 18, New York State Comptroller Thomas P. DiNapoli and the New York State Police announced the arrest of former Village of Rhinebeck Superintendent of Public Works John J. Fenton Jr., 56, of Wappingers Falls on six counts, including grand larceny, falsifying business records and corrupting the government in the 3rd degree.

The arrest was a result of a joint investigation between DiNapoli's Office, the Dutchess County District Attorney's Office, and the New York State Police.

While a full-time employee with the Village of Rhinebeck, Fenton obtained part-time zoning and code enforcement and building inspection employment with the Town of Rhinebeck, the Village of Tivoli, the Town of Red Hook and the Town of Clinton. In addition to his public employment, he conducted home inspections for his two private companies.

Fenton allegedly left during the workday while working for the Village of Rhinebeck to work for the other municipalities and then falsified time sheets submitted to Red Hook to hide his double-dipping. Fenton also falsified mileage reimbursement requests to Red Hook in order to receive improper payments. Fenton also used the village's office and

other resources to work his various side jobs. As a result, he allegedly stole \$2,697 from the Village of Rhinebeck and \$2,978 from the Town of Red Hook.

"Mr. Fenton allegedly cheated the taxpayers of multiple municipalities to line his own pocket," DiNapoli said. "I thank Dutchess County District Attorney William Grady and the New York State Police for partnering with my office to hold him accountable."

"Our investigation determined that Fenton was allegedly stealing from taxpayers for his own benefit by falsifying his time sheets," said New York State Police Superintendent Kevin P. Bruen. "We have no tolerance for any type of public corruption, and I commend the New York State Comptroller's Office, our State Police members, and the Dutchess County District Attorney's Office for their combined effort in exposing this fraud."

Fenton was arrested and released on an appearance ticket and is due back in court on April 7.

Fenton worked for the Village of Rhinebeck from April 2014 until May 2020 after he pleaded guilty to official misconduct for an unrelated matter while in office.

Investigators determined Cowperthwaite sexually assaulted a child.

Cowperthwaite was arraigned before the town of Red Hook court and remanded to the Dutchess County Jail in lieu of \$20,000 cash bail, \$40,000 secure bond, or \$80,000 partially secured bond.

RED HOOK MAN ARRESTED FOR RAPE OF A CHILD

On March 11, the New York State Police from the Rhinebeck barracks arrested Gary Cowperthwaite, age 64, of Red Hook, for Rape in the 2nd degree, and two counts of Criminal Sex Act in the 2nd degree, all Class D felonies.

Following a law enforcement tip

DC Drug Task Force reports arrest

The Dutchess County Drug Task Force reports the arrest of Christopher J. Norris, age 39 of Hyde Park, in connection with an investigation into drug sales out of a local motel in Hyde Park. On March 15, Drug Task Force members with the assistance of the Hyde Park Police and Dutchess County Sheriff's Office executed a search warrant resulting in the following:

Norris has been charged with one count of Criminal Possession of a Controlled Substance in the third degree with an intent to sell, a class B felony, and one count of Criminal Possession of a

Controlled Substance in the fourth degree, a class C felony. Norris was also found to have three outstanding arrest warrants issued by the Town of Hyde Park Justice Court.

Norris was processed at the Hyde Park Police Department and then arraigned and remanded to the Dutchess County Jail on no bail. No further details will be released about the case at this time.

If anyone has information about individuals selling drugs, they are urged to contact the confidential tip-line at DrugTaskForceTips@gmail.com or call (845) 463-6040.

Attorney General James warns consumers impacted by T-Mobile data breach of potential identity theft

New York Attorney General Letitia James provided guidance to consumers who may have been impacted by a 2021 T-Mobile data breach, following reports that the stolen information was put for sale on the dark web. Alongside a bipartisan coalition of attorneys general, Attorney General James advised all New York residents who believe they were impacted by the data breach to take appropriate steps to protect their information from identity theft. This comes after several individuals received alerts that their information was circulating online following the August 2021 data breach.

In August 2021, T-Mobile reported a massive data breach compromising the sensitive personal information of millions of current, former, and prospective T-Mobile customers. The breach impacted more than 53 million individuals, including more than 4 million New Yorkers. Among other categories of impacted information, millions had their names, dates of birth, Social Security numbers, and driver's license information compromised.

Recently, a large subset of the information compromised in the breach was discovered for sale on the dark web — a hidden portion of the Internet where cyber criminals buy, sell, and track personal information. Many individuals received alerts through various identity theft protection services informing them that their information was found online in connection with the breach, confirming that impacted individuals are at heightened risk for identity theft.

Attorney General James urges anyone who believes they were impacted by the T-Mobile breach to take the following steps to protect themselves:

- Monitor your credit. Credit monitoring services track your credit report and alert you whenever a change is made, such as a new account or a large purchase. Most services will notify you within 24 hours of any change to your credit report.

- Consider placing a free credit freeze on your credit report. Identity thieves will not be able to open a new credit account in your name while the freeze is in place. You can place a credit freeze by contacting each of the three major credit bureaus:

- Equifax | <https://www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services/credit-freeze+1> (888) 766-0008

- Experian | <https://www.experian.com/freeze/center.html+1> (888) 397-3742

- TransUnion | <https://www.transunion.com/credit-freeze+1> (800) 680-7289

- Place a fraud alert on your credit report. A fraud alert tells lenders and creditors to take extra steps to verify your identity before issuing credit. You can place a fraud alert by contacting any one of the three major credit bureaus.

- Additional Resources. If you believe you are a victim of identity theft, go to identitytheft.gov for assistance on how to report it and recover from it — or contact our office for help by completing and submitting a complaint with the Bureau of Internet and Technology or by calling (800) 771-7755.

Sheriff's Office investigating increasing phone scams

The Dutchess County Sheriff's Office would like to take this opportunity to warn the residents of Dutchess County and surrounding areas about scams that once again seem to be on the rise.

Scams are ways in which criminals will attempt to get money from people by contacting them and making up elaborate stories. In some cases the perpetrators have tried, sometimes successfully, to use the victim's emotions about a loved one in trouble to get money. It's common for the perpetrators of these scams to try to get money by telling people that one of their relatives has been seriously hurt or is in jail, and that they need money right away. In many cases they will pose as a law enforcement official or another relative to try and convince the victim that it's legitimate.

The latest scam involves the perpetrators posing as representatives of law enforcement. The Sheriff's Office received two calls about this scam on March 9, and in both cases the perpetrators identified themselves as "Sgt. Jason Mark" and left voicemails instructing the victims to call them back right away about an urgent matter. In both cases the call recipients recognized it as a scam and contact the Sheriff's Office immediately.

The Sheriff's Office would like to offer the following tips to help people avoid these scams:

- Legitimate law enforcement would not attempt to satisfy a warrant or make promises to avoid prosecution by soliciting money.

- If you receive an email about an order you didn't place or asking you to send money call the company using a legitimate number. DO NOT follow the instructions in the email, click on any links in the email, or call the number provided in the email.

- If someone asks you to purchase merchandise, transfer money, provide bank information, or enter a code given to you by them use caution as it is likely a scam.

- Do not meet up with someone that you don't know; if you're asked to do this it is surely a scam, and it is very dangerous as well.

- If you're contacted by someone you don't know asking for money, for any reason, that's

a signal that it's most likely a scam.

- If someone calls you and tells you that a relative has been hurt or is in jail, confirm it first before sending any money. Call other relatives or a legitimate law enforcement agency for confirmation before any money is sent. If they're posing as a relative, try and contact that relative for confirmation.

- Sending money overseas is especially risky; use extreme caution.

- Ask the person for their call back number and ask to speak to their supervisor to confirm the info; if it's a scam they will most likely hang up at this point and the number they give you will be bogus.

- If the person is telling you that a loved one is in the hospital or jail, find out which one and contact the institution yourself to confirm.

- If a loved one has recently passed away be wary; in some cases perpetrators have even preyed on victims by searching through the obituaries and calling surviving loved ones. If you get calls from people you don't know soon after someone passes away, be careful and confirm it before you send any money.

- In some cases someone will call and tell the victim that they've won money, but to "process the claim" they need to first send money. Beware this is most definitely a scam and don't send any money — you should never have to pay money to claim a prize. If it seems too good to be true, it most likely is.

- If there's any doubt about a phone call or email received, contact the Sheriff's Office before sending any money.

- Scams tend to increase during the holiday season, be especially alert for them during those times.

It is very important to not send any money to anyone that you don't know until you've confirmed the situation through an independent source and feel comfortable with it. If it's a scam once the money is sent it's very difficult, and most times impossible, to get it back. If anyone thinks they may have been the victim of a scam they are encouraged to contact the Sheriff's Office at 845-486-3800 or via the tipline at 845-605-CLUE or dcstips@gmail.com.

Creative Living

celebrating all good things

Two performances set at Stissing Center March 26-27

The Stissing Center in Pine Plains will present two performances on Saturday and Sunday, March 26 and 27.

The duo "2 of a Kind," featuring Brent D. Kuenning and Steve Geyer, will perform on Saturday at 8 p.m.

Their original signature show "Sing, Swing, and Soul" is a sophisticated journey of the musical styles that have become the standards of the great American song book. The versatility of styles runs the gamut from contemporary crooners including Harry Connick Jr., Barry Manilow, Michael Bublé, and John Legend. Songs include: "Me and My Shadow," "Ain't that a Kick in the Head," "Home" and a high energy Motown Medley.

Advance tickets are recommended (\$20). Tickets are \$25 at the door.

On Sunday, the Local Produce Readers' Theatre will present "Village Cidiot," by Lauren Letellier at 3 p.m.

Tickets are \$5 and doors open at 2:30 p.m.

Having lost her job and her youngest brother to cancer, Lauren moves from NYC to a rural upstate town where everything she worked so hard to acquire — from her corporate wardrobe to her urban identity — is useless. Facing off against marauding bears, suspicious locals and a



2 of a Kind will perform their "Sing, Swing, and Soul" show at The Stissing Center on Saturday. Courtesy photo

near-death illness, she tries to build meaning in a new life she never wanted. The hilarious and the heartbreaking are found in equal measure this production.

This is the sixth offering in the Local Produce Readers' Theatre series presented by The Stissing Center and Oblong Books. Tickets are \$5 per show, and series passes are available for \$35.

Check out thestissingcenter.org for updates to the Covid policy.

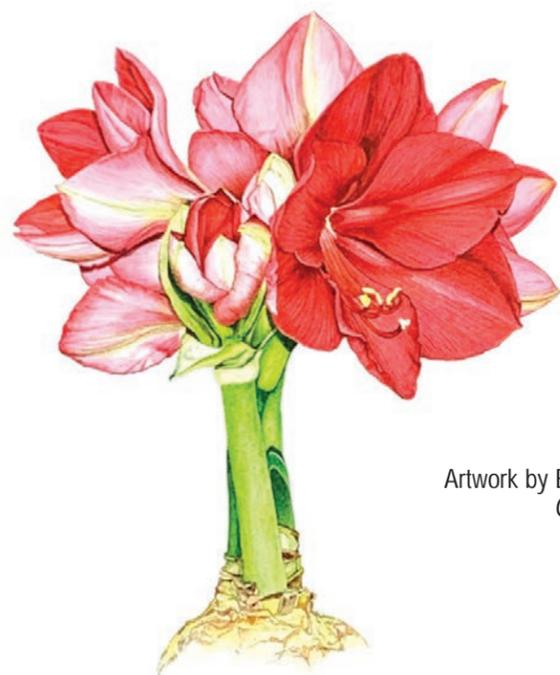
ART EXHIBITIONS

EXHIBITIONS

Cunneen-Hackett Arts Center, 9 & 12 Vassar St., Poughkeepsie. **Through April 29:** Featured in the Hallway Art Gallery at 9 Vassar St. will be Rachel Arielle Kleinman; and at 12 Vassar St. will be Barbara Masterson in the Reception & Hancock Galleries. Visitors must call the Cunneen-Hackett Arts Center Office at (845) 486-4571 for access to galleries. Visit cunneen-hackett.org for hours and to review the Visitation Safety Protocols.

Frances Lehman Loeb Art Center, Vassar College, 124 Raymond Ave., Poughkeepsie. **Through July:** "Beyond the Threshold: Contemporary Tibetan Art," on view in the Loeb's Asian Gallery. Among the major themes explored in these wide-ranging works are the impacts of globalization and commercialism on Tibetan culture, the creation and inhabitation of virtual worlds, self-representation and the questioning of identities, interconnectedness and pushing back against expectations collectively imposed upon Tibetans as subjects of the outsider gaze. (845) 437-5632 or flac.vassar.edu

Rhinebeck Bank, 6414 Montgomery St., Rhinebeck. **Through April 21:** Botanical artwork by Ellen Crimmins, a collection of 19 traditional and waxed watercolors. Artwork@RhinebeckBank.com



Artwork by Ellen Crimmins. Courtesy image

Trolley Barn Gallery, 489 Main St., Poughkeepsie. **Through April 14:** The Art Effect youth curatorial team presents the international juried exhibition, "High Contrast," an exhibition celebrates unconventional uses of media, including light installation, textiles and multimedia sculpture, as well as painting and photography. **A virtual artist talk** moderated by the Youth Curatorial Team and three featured artists will take place on Wed., March 23, 7-8 p.m. (845) 471-7477

WomensWork.art, 4 S. Clinton St., Poughkeepsie. **Through April 23:** "Emerging," a collection of artwork featuring emerging and student artists. www.womenswork.art

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Sweater weather

The change of the seasons reminds Luigi of chilly mornings waiting for the school bus.

Now that the weather is changing from winter to spring and it is still chilly in the morning, I leave for work with a jacket or a sweater of some sort and a hat to cover my balding head. I pull up to the corner of my street and I see kids standing there with their hands shoved into their pockets with short-sleeved shirts on, and frosty breath coming out of their mouth, and I'm thinking that would never have hap-

pened when I was a kid.

You see, when I was a kid my mom was the sweater Nazi. We would never leave the house without one if the temperature was under 60 degrees. I hated wearing jackets, sweaters and hats. I would try to sneak out to the bus stop without them. However, more often than not, Mom would catch me and make me wear one. And if I gave her a hard time she would

put it on me herself. And if she had to put it on me herself, it was never pleasant.

First, she would pick what I thought was the ugliest sweater in the drawer. It was always a hand-me-down of some sort and usually with some type of bird knitted into it, one that I thought was girly and one I knew would get made fun of. She would stick my head through the neck hole of my "Ugly, girly, demon, sweater from hell" with me grunting and groaning.

She would then sigh because, naturally, I was not helping to make her job easier. In fact, I was doing whatever I could to make her job more difficult so maybe, just maybe, she'd get fed up and tell me to just go. But my mom never gave up. She lived through Benito Mussolini, so my little temper tantrum was nothing. It was her quest to put this sweater on me so I didn't catch a cold, and if she had to twist every one of my appendages to prevent it, so be it. She would invariably practically rip my arm out of my socket in order to put it through the sleeve of my "Ugly, girly, demon, sweater from hell." All the time with me screaming and crying.

Finally, she would bend my remaining

arm at a very unhealthy angle and somehow put it in the other sleeve of my "Ugly, girly, demon, sweater from hell". I would stand there looking in the mirror, pouting and wondering how I wasn't going to get made fun of at school. My hair would be messed up, my ears red from chafing, my eyes red from crying. She would then give me a kiss, make the sign of the cross on my forehead, and send me out the door to the bus stop.

I stood at the bus stop trying to figure out how I could sneak away and take off my "Ugly, girly, demon, sweater from hell" before the bus got to our house. I kept looking back at the front door waiting to see if my mom would go back inside the house. There she stood ever vigilant, reading my mind, making sure I kept the sweater on.

Just then the bus came. I stood there panicking knowing what was about to happen. The bus slowed to a stop. The brakes would hiss, the doors squeaked opened. Tony D'Angelo, my bus driver looked down to me with a big smile on his face from his perch. I took a deep breath, closed my eyes and trudged up the

continued on page 15

WILDERSTEIN ANNOUNCES CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

Wilderstein Historic Site in Rhinebeck invites those interested in learning about volunteer opportunities at the site to attend an orientation meeting for new and returning volunteers on Saturday, April 9, at 10 a.m. The orientation meeting will take place over Zoom.

Volunteering at Wilderstein is a fantastic way to learn about local history, make friends, and become involved in the community. Additional volunteers are needed to conduct guided tours, work in the gift shop, help maintain the landscape, and more.

Three generations of the Suckley family called Wilderstein their home. The estate, with its exquisite Queen Anne mansion and Calvert Vaux designed landscape, is widely regarded as one of the Hudson Valley's most important examples of Victorian architecture. The last person to reside at Wilderstein was Margaret (Daisy) Suckley, whose remarkable friendship with Franklin Delano Roosevelt has been well-chronicled and is the subject of much interest.

Without Wilderstein's cadre of dedicated volunteers, it would be impossible to keep this historic site open as a cultural destination for visitors from around the region and the world. Wilderstein is located at 330 Morton Road in Rhinebeck. For further information, call the Wilderstein Office at (845) 876-4818.




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‘Discovery’ of historic house reveals home of former slave

by Bill Jeffway

Presentation
Tuesday March 29 at 7:00 p.m. Bill Jeffway speaks about Hyde Park's New Guinea Community and the Dunbar Brown House - With Mary Witherwax.
 The event will be held at the Fellowship Hall of the United Methodist Church of Hyde Park, 1 Church Street. Entrance on Church Street for parking. Masks required.
 Email bill.jeffway@dchsn.org with any questions.
 Hosted by the Town of Hyde Park Historical Society

After living in Florida for three decades, Mary Witherwax and her husband, Roland, were looking for a house to buy in Dutchess County in 2020. They were returning home in the sense that they had grown up locally and had known each other from their teenage years.

Mary “just knew” she walked into the right house in the Town of Hyde Park on East Market Street. She had a feeling there was a wonderful history tied to the house, which motivated her to want to call it home.

It turns out, she was right.

“I knew it was the right place the second I walked in, my husband not so much at first, but it has grown on him. An old house can be harder to keep up. We had built a new house when we moved to

Florida. But I feel that if you live in New York, especially here, you need to live in an old house. That’s what this area is all about,” she said.

“When I first walked in, it was a feeling as I started walking through. I thought the quirks, the odd stairs added character (there is a very narrow, very vertical set of stairs leading upstairs and to the basement). That was it, I wanted the house.”

Mary and Roland bought the house thinking it was built in 1900, the date mentioned in tax records and the date advertised by the real estate agent. Mary explains, “At the closing, the prior owner had prepared an envelope with the deed chain going back to 1826 showing all the names of owners, including a man named Dunbar Brown, but I knew nothing about him until recently.”

The deed chain shows that the narrow and deep quarter acre lot was subdivided in 1826 and was first purchased for \$75 by Deborah and Dennis Beach. Dunbar Brown bought two adjacent quarter acre lots for a total of \$170 in 1834. By 1857, the deed included his wife’s name, and they sold the two lots for \$462. The higher price suggests, and other data supports, that Brown had built a house by then, the one that stands today.

What is exceptional about Brown is that we know, from other sources, that he was enslaved by Judge Edmund Pendleton on an estate just north of the Vanderbilt site, arriving in Hyde Park



The house at East Market Street in Hyde Park was the property of Dunbar (formerly Pompey) Brown, who was a slave owned by Judge Edmond Pendleton, at an estate just north of the site of the Vanderbilt Estate. Photo by Bill Jeffway

from New Jersey around 1820. We don’t know exactly when Brown became free, but slavery was abolished and prohibited in New York State from July 4, 1827, so he was certainly free by then.

This information was a kind of accidental or incidental discovery as DCHS was conducting an updated investigation into the Hyde Park New Guinea Community, an effort for Black History Month that was sponsored by Dutchess County Government, Offices of the County Executive, Clerk and Historian.

Emily Majer of Tivoli is owner/operator of “White Clay Kill Preservation.” She has an MS in Historic Preservation from the University of Massachusetts, is Town Historian of Red Hook, and is a trustee of Historic Red Hook.

She is confident the house was standing during the period of ownership of Dunbar Brown, saying, “It’s the whole package, the size and massing of the structure and the visible eyebrow window. While there is some newer flooring in parts, the beams look to have been hand hewn and sash sawn, and the mortar in the basement looks like a nice soft lime mixture. These elements, plus the size and shape of the house, and the roofline definitely say pre-1850 to me. 1834 is within the range of possibility.”

We are very fortunate to have the notes of Edward Braman, a local Hyde Park historian. Called the “Edward Braman Diaries, 1873 to 1894,” they are housed at the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library & Museum, part of the Franklin D. Roosevelt Hudson River Valley & Dutchess County Manuscript Collection.

Through them we learn that while enslaved Dunbar Brown was known as Pompey Brown, and that it was somewhere along his journey from enslaved to being a free man, that he changed his name.

Braman visited Dunbar Brown and his wife, Amy Griffin Brown, in New York City in 1878, and wrote the following, “Dunbar (Pompey) Brown was a slave when he came to Hyde Park in 1821 or 1822, as coachman for Judge Edmund H. Pendleton. Later, after he left the Judge, he settled in New York City and became a carpet shaker, whitewasher, and public waiter. He prospered and at one time was worth considerable property. He is a prominent member of St. Philip’s (colored) Episcopal Church on Mulberry Street, and his daughter is one of the lady managers of its fairs...”

In a summary note, meant to indicate the hospitality and popularity of Dunbar and Amy Brown at Wooster Street, Braman writes, “Brown’s brass door plate with ‘D. Brown’ on it is well worn.”

Judge Edmond Pendleton’s father, Nathaniel Pendleton, was best known for being the second to Alexander Hamilton at the duel that proved fatal to Hamilton. He married into the Bard family and came to own an estate just north of the Bard family. The Bard family estate was located at the site of today’s Vanderbilt Estate.

When Brown died in 1884 at the age of 84, the New York Globe of June 7, 1884 referred to him as “an old and respected citizen, a prominent member of St Philip’s P.E. (Colored) Church where his funeral was held. He left a widow, two daughters and three grandchildren in New York City.” The reference to the church is explained in the book, “In Protest and Progress. New York’s First Black Episcopal Church Fights Racism. Studies in African American History and Culture.” The author, John H. Hewitt, Jr. writes that Brown was an advocate who helped the Black church in New York City gain full and equal status within the Episcopal Diocese in the 1852, saying, “Those still living [in 1852] of the original ten men on the 1845 vestry who had initiated the effort to win the vote in the diocesan convention must have been overjoyed [...as they] helped press the parish’s cause to a successful conclusion. Among them were Dunbar Brown, who operated a shoeshine parlor at 430 Broadway.”

Mary takes pride in being able to maintain Dunbar and Amy Griffin Brown’s legacy as persons, through maintaining the home.

“I hope more people will look at their homes and find out its history,” she said, “I know I can carry on their names, they had long lives, and I hope if other people have an older home, they will want to know its history. History is important, I really believe that. It has made us who we are today, and we learn from it, there has been good and bad, there is always that, but we should learn from it and not ignore it.”

Bill Jeffway is the Executive Director of the Dutchess County Historical Society and can be reached at bill.jeffway@dchsn.org or (845) 293-7711.



Mary Witherwax, who has owned the house with her husband, Roland, since 2020, sits in the dining room with exposed beams. She was attracted to the house by its “hand hewn” character, but only recently discovered the proprietor, and likely builder, was a former slave. Photo by Bill Jeffway

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A&E Calendar

arts and entertainment happenings

March 25-April 3

"Henry V," The Center for Performing Arts at Rhinebeck, 661 Rte. 308, Rhinebeck. CENTERstage Productions presents William Shakespeare's inspiring Shakespearean epic, retold here with an emphasis on the power of unity and loyalty to overcome an entrenched power structure. Directed by Joe Eriole. With original music by Peter Kiewra and Matt Eriole; animation and art by Dan Chester. Performances: Fri. & Sat., 8 p.m.; Sun., 3 p.m. Tickets \$25. (845) 876-3080 or www.centerforperformingarts.org

Saturday, March 26

Skyhunters In Flight 2022, The Center for Performing Arts at Rhinebeck, 661 Rte. 308, Rhinebeck. A fascinating look at the world of raptors, including natural history and biology, 11 a.m. Learn how birds of prey live and survive with an indoor falconry lecture and presentation, followed by an exciting outdoor flight demonstration (weather permitting). Ideal for all ages. All tickets \$10. (845) 876-3080 or www.centerforperformingarts.org

Sunday, March 27

The Wailin' Jennys, The Bardavon, 35 Market St., Poughkeepsie. Starting as a happy accident for a one-time performance almost 20 years ago, The Wailin' Jennys have grown into one of today's most beloved international folk acts. They create some of the most exciting music on the folk-roots scene. 7 p.m. Tickets start at \$36 845-473-2072, 845-339-6088 or boxoffice@bardavon.org

AUDITIONS

Rhinebeck Theatre Society will hold auditions for "Amélie," a fanciful musical based on the beloved hit movie, directed by Ellen Honig. Music by Daniel Messé, Lyrics by Messé and Nathan Tysen and Book by Craig Lucas. Auditions will take place at The Center for Performing Arts at Rhinebeck, 661 Route 308, Rhinebeck, on Saturday, March 26, at 1 p.m. and Sunday, March 27, at 7 p.m. Callbacks will be held on Monday, March 28, at 7 p.m.

Amélie is the story of a naïve, love-starved French woman who mischievously manipulates the lives of the people around her to create a world more to her liking. Set in 1970s Paris, the play, rich with physical and verbal comedy, features a set of oddball characters in a lively, unique musical.



The Wailin' Jennys will perform at The Bardavon in Poughkeepsie on Sunday. See the listing, left, for more information. Photo by Morten Fog

LOOK FOR LOVE TO COOK IN NEXT WEEK'S ISSUE

Vicki Frank Day shares stories and recipes.



That's Italian!

continued from page 13

stairs with my head down. I got to the top of the stairs, and looked back into the bus ... I stared out in disbelief ... I looked out to a sea of boys, all with "Ugly, girly, demon, sweater from hell" on, all pouting, all with chafed ears and all with red eyes.

I guess their mothers lived through Benito Mussolini also.

Enjoy my favorite spring dish. Buon Appetito!

BRAISED RABBITS WITH VEGETABLES

Ingredients

- 2 lb. rabbit meat (with bone)
- 2 sprigs rosemary
- 3 carrots, cut into 1/2-inch wedges
- 3 potatoes, peeled and cut into 1/2-inch wedges
- 4 celery sticks, diced
- 1 large onion, sliced
- 4-6 tblspns. olive oil
- 2 cups dry white wine
- 2 cups chicken broth
- 6 cloves garlic
- 3 bay leaves
- 1 bunch parsley
- 5-6 pitted black olives
- salt
- pepper

Method

Rinse rabbit pieces under running water; pat dry and season with salt and pepper. Rinse rosemary and shake dry. Heat olive oil in a pan and brown rabbit on all sides.

Flatten each garlic clove and place in pan, browning on each side.

Add white wine and broth to the pan and saute briefly. Turn off and set aside.

In a baking pan, arrange all the vegetables. Place rabbit pieces and top of the vegetables and pour the sauce into the pan. Add rosemary and bay leaves and bake, covered, for about 1 hour at 350 degrees.

Luigi Coppola is one of five brothers born to Francesca and Antonio Coppola. The Coppola family came to America from Naples, Italy in 1954. Antonio and his brothers opened their first restaurant in Poughkeepsie in 1961. Luigi and his brothers Nick, John, Antonio and Vincent have carried on the family tradition in the way their parents taught them, using classic recipes taught to them at their apron strings. Visit their website at www.coppolas.net.

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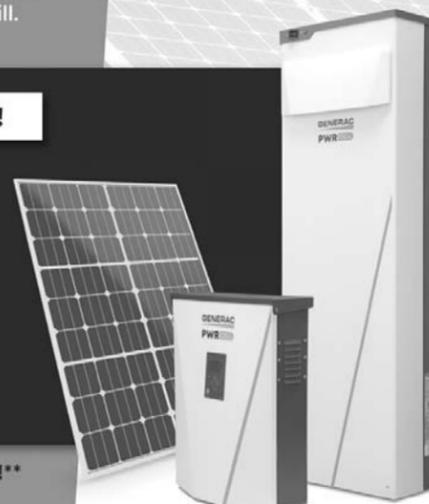
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Diversions

SUDOKU

Sudoku requires no arithmetic skills.

The object of the game is to fill all the blank squares with the correct numbers.

Each row of 9 numbers must include all digits 1 through 9 in any order.

Each column of 9 numbers must include all digits 1 through 9 in any order.

Each 3 by 3 subsection of the 9 by 9 square must include all digits 1 through 9.

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 8 | | 9 | 1 | | | 4 | | 5 |
| | | 2 | 9 | | 4 | | | 3 |
| | 3 | | 7 | | | | | |
| 1 | | | | | | | 7 | |
| | | 6 | | 7 | | 1 | | |
| | 4 | | | | | | | 9 |
| | | | | | 5 | | 8 | |
| 7 | | | 3 | | 8 | 9 | | |
| 4 | | 8 | | | 7 | 3 | | |

Suguru

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|---|--|--|--|---|
| | | | | | | | | |
| | | 2 | | | | | | 3 |
| | | | | 4 | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| 3 | | | | 5 | | | | |
| | | | | | | | | 5 |

The heavy lines indicate areas, called cages, from one to five squares in size. Fill each cage with unique digits, counting up from 1. So for example a 2-square cage contains the numbers 1 and 2; and a 5-square cage contains the numbers from 1 to 5. Adjacent (touching) squares, even ones that touch diagonally, may never contain the same number.

ACROSS

- Dramatist George Bernard ___
- List of candidates
- Moon: Sp.
- North Sea nation: abbr.
- Highest scorer, in golf
- Smooth
- Region
- Made of a certain wood
- Departed
- Flat-bottomed boat
- ___ Falls
- Rest
- Irk
- Orange or peach
- Eur. language
- Preach
- Word with land or free
- Rocky crag
- Religious title
- Siamese coin
- Teased good-naturedly
- Assn.
- Hit the sack
- Polish off
- To boot
- Gem
- ___ up; misbehave
- Tiny land mass
- Set out
- See 9 Down
- Regular payment
- So-called
- Strip
- Sticker
- Part
- Mr. Guinness
- Accustom: var.
- One of four in a deck
- Swallow's place
- Dutch painter Jan
- Spots

DOWN

- Word with shot or dragon
- Novel's star
- Solar disk
- Nonspecific article
- Sailing vessel
- Give temporarily
- Invite
- Youth
- With 50 Across, 2012 British Open winner
- Account books
- Eye layer
- By
- "...___ partridge in a pear..."
- Boatman's need
- Dodge
- Flawless
- Russian rulers, once: var.
- Singing group
- Game of chance
- Tibetan antelope
- Ring-shaped island
- Wordy's opposite
- Plant fungus
- Article
- Fix in place
- Island whose capital is Canea
- Too heavy
- Look over carefully
- Declares
- Zealous
- Sneezy and feverish
- Llamas' home
- Girl's name
- Bridge
- Saga
- Angers
- Swiss waterway
- Puncture
- Robert ___
- Algerian governors, once
- Hint

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| 14 | | | | | 15 | | | | | | 16 | | | |
| 17 | | | | | 18 | | | | | | 19 | | | |
| 20 | | | | 21 | | | | 22 | | 23 | | | | |
| | | | 24 | | | | 25 | | | | | | | |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | | | | 29 | | | | 30 | | 31 | 32 | 33 |
| 34 | | | | | 35 | | | | | 36 | | | | |
| 37 | | | | 38 | | | | | 39 | | | | 40 | |
| 41 | | | 42 | | | | 43 | | | | 44 | | | |
| 45 | | | | | | 46 | | | | 47 | | | | |
| | | | 48 | | 49 | | | | 50 | | | | | |
| 51 | 52 | 53 | | | | | | 54 | | | | 55 | 56 | 57 |
| 58 | | | | | 59 | | 60 | | | | 61 | | | |
| 62 | | | | | 63 | | | | | | 64 | | | |
| 65 | | | | | 66 | | | | | | 67 | | | |

The solutions to both the Sudoku & Crossword puzzles can be found on page 18

Hyde Park Chamber accepting applications for scholarships

The Hyde Park Chamber of Commerce announced that the deadline to apply for its scholarship awards is Friday, April 15. Awards will be announced on or before May 5.

CATEGORIES:

On Behalf of the Hyde Park Chamber of Commerce:

1. Full time Hyde Park Resident, senior in high school with a minimum of a "B" average who will be attending a university/college in the fall of 2022 and majoring in Business

Two \$750 scholarships will be awarded

On Behalf of the Hyde Park Farmers Market:

2. Full time Hyde Park Resident, senior in high school with a minimum of a "B" average who will be attending a university/college in the fall of 2022 and majoring in Agriculture or related field such as the environment

One \$500 scholarship will be awarded
Visit <https://www.hydeparkchamber.online/> for the application.

High schoolers may apply for DCSPPC Katherine M. Beale Memorial Scholarships

The Dutchess County Saint Patrick's Parade Committee is offering a \$1,500 scholarship for a girl and a \$1,500 for a boy of Irish decent. The Katherine M. Beale Scholarships will be awarded for community involvement and academic

achievement. The application deadline is April 30.

Application information is available at www.dcsppc.org.

The scholarship recipients will be announced on June 4.

\$1M grant allows American Heart Association to expand 'Lower the Pressure' initiative

The American Heart Association has new tools to help improve blood pressure rates in New York State, thanks to a grant from the Mother Cabrini Health Foundation.

The two-year grant of \$1 million will allow the American Heart Association to expand its focus on improving high blood pressure rates in under-resourced communities. Through the "Lower the Pressure" initiative, the association will enhance its existing work in 50 Federally Qualified Health Centers and primary care centers and expand to 20 more clinics and practices. The American Heart Association will work directly with community partners and patients themselves to help educate and empower them to be a partner in their care.

High blood pressure is a leading risk factor for heart disease and stroke. It is known as "the silent killer" because people often don't feel any symptoms, but it can have deadly consequences.

"As we celebrate American Heart Month this February, the American Heart Association is encouraging everyone to Reclaim Your Rhythm and take back control of their physical and emotional well-being," said Nicole Aiello Sapio, Executive Vice President of the American Heart Association's Eastern States Region. "This includes taking steps to control blood pressure. We're grateful for the generosity of the Mother Cabrini Health Foundation and are honored to be selected as a grantee. We look forward to making an impact on the health of our communities as we address hypertension."

The "Lower the Pressure" initiative is expected to impact more than 1.9-million

people in low-income communities across both rural and urban settings. It will provide up to 7,000 personal blood pressure monitors for participating clinics to share with patients over the grant period.

A blood pressure monitor "loaner program" will place monitors in community locations like libraries, churches, and food banks to increase access to cuffs and help people manage their blood pressure. The skills taught in this program, both to providers and to patients, are tools that will be useful far beyond the two-year grant period.

To further create a sustainable program, the grant will allow the American Heart Association to hire a clinical practice facilitator to support healthcare organizations with assessing needs and implementing changes as this exciting program gets under way.

"As we look back at the compounding crises of the last few years, the health-related needs of vulnerable communities have only grown. Our grantees have demonstrated tremendous resilience, creativity, and dedication to serving those in need, especially as the COVID-19 pandemic continues to have such detrimental impact," said Alfred F. Kelly, Jr., Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Visa and Chair of the Mother Cabrini Health Foundation Board.

The Mother Cabrini Health Foundation is a private, nonprofit organization whose mission is to improve the health and well-being of New Yorkers, bolster the health outcomes of vulnerable communities, eliminate barriers to care, and bridge gaps in health services.

COLLEGE NOTES

GARDEN CITY, NY — A select group of outstanding students has been named to the fall 2021 Dean's List at Adelphi University.

Those named to the fall 2021 semester Dean's List include Anne Marie Cipolla of Hyde Park and Amanda Owens of Hyde Park.

The Dean's List includes full-time students registered for 12 or more credits who have completed at least 9 graded credits and achieved a GPA of 3.5 or above for the semester. This recognition becomes part of the student's academic record and is entered into the individual's transcript.

CEDARVILLE, OH — Cedarville University student Hannah Malafy of Red Hook, majoring in Nursing, was named to the Dean's Honor List for Fall 2021. This recognition requires the student to obtain a 3.75 GPA or higher for the semester and carry a minimum of 12 credit hours.

POTSDAM, NY — The following local students from Clarkson University were awarded bachelor's, masters and doctoral degrees this winter on Dec. 18, 2021:

Ryan Yakush of Pleasant Valley received a master of engineering degree in electrical engineering and a certificate in power systems eng.

Robert Cheng of Red Hook received a bachelor of science degree in mechanical engineering.

ROCHESTER, NY — The following local residents made the Dean's List at Rochester Institute of Technology for the Fall 2021 Semester.

Peyton Dennis of Clinton Corners, who is in the mechanical engineering program.

Bethany Folchi of Pleasant Valley, who is in the mechanical engineering technology program.

Meredith Michetti of Pine Plains, who is in the biomedical engineering program.

Katie Ciccone of Hyde Park, who is in the chemical engineering program.

Ryan Marino of Stanfordville, who is in the mechanical engineering program.

Kelly Scattergood of Rhinebeck, who is in the university exploration program.

Alexander Gruber of Red Hook, who is in the mechanical engineering technology program.

Tanner Newman of Rhinebeck, who is in the photographic and imaging arts program.

Daisy Matus of Millerton, who is in the biomedical engineering program.

Juliana Pucci of Pleasant Valley, who is in the 3D digital design program.

Jason Gasparini of Pleasant Valley, who is in the computing security program.

Emma-Rose Scagnelli of Clinton Corners, who is in the mechanical engineering program.

Jake Halpern of Rhinebeck, who is in the mechanical engineering program.

Lily O'Carroll of Amenia, who is in the computer science program.

Full-time degree-seeking undergraduate students are eligible for Dean's List if their term GPA is greater than or equal to 3.400; they do not have any grades of "Incomplete," "D" or "F"; and they have registered for, and completed, at least 12 credit hours.

EAST HARTFORD, CT — William Winters has earned a spot on the Goodwin University Dean's List for Fall 2021.

William, a student from Hyde Park, is one of 1,049 students to make the Dean's List, reserved for those who demonstrate great academic performance.

Dean's List inclusion requires a student to earn a minimum 3.5 GPA, the equivalent of an A- average, during a given academic session. The student must also be enrolled in a minimum of six academic credits to qualify.

SUNY New Paltz student Morgan Hammell is a member of the 2022 conference championship-winning Women's Basketball team

NEW PALTZ — Morgan Hammell of Pleasant Valley is a member of SUNY New Paltz's State University of New York Athletic Conference (SUNYAC) Championship-winning women's basketball team.

SUNY New Paltz got the defensive stops it needed to hold off top-seeded Cortland, and come away with an extremely close 66-63 victory.

"There was a lot of tears immediately after the game in the juniors in particular," said Hawks coach Jamie Seward. "You can just see that emotional release and relief, but you can tell it was the culmination of a long journey and to win a conference championship you could see how much it meant to them on their faces."

DELHI, NY — SUNY Delhi is proud to welcome new students for the Spring 2022 semester. Paula O'Dell-Jackson of Wassaic is one of more than 125 students who joined the Bronco family and began taking classes in late January 2022.

O'Dell-Jackson is pursuing a degree in Criminal Justice at the college which is located in Delhi, NY.

PURCHASE, NY — Purchase College announced that more than 1,250 students were named to the Dean's List for the fall semester. Local students include:

Zachary Olmoz of Pleasant Valley, Emma Hostetter of Stanfordville, Hannah Walker of Hyde Park, Natalie Gasparini of Pleasant Valley, Owen Robb of Millbrook, Rebecca Quick of Millbrook, Adam Coleman of Red Hook, Henry Mosto of Rhinebeck, Maria Hart of Hyde Park, Nicolas Jafary of Hyde Park, Macey Veeder-Shave of Hyde Park, and John Pillsbury of Pleasant Valley.

Students who have earned this academic honor have maintained a grade-point average of 3.5 or higher and taken a minimum of 12 credits. For BA and BS programs, a semester GPA of 3.50 is required. For BFA and MusB programs, a semester GPA of 3.75 is required.

DELHI, NY — SUNY Delhi announces its dean's list for the fall 2021 semester, a recognition of academic achievement for students who enrolled in six or more credits and earned a 3.5 or higher grade-point average for the semester.

Local students named to the list include:

Marco Finocchi of Staatsburg pursuing a degree in Architectural Design and Building;

Lucas Staats of Red Hook pursuing a degree in Construction Management: Design and Building;

Holly Bay of Pine Plains pursuing a degree in Event Management;

Lisa Blake of Pine Plains pursuing a degree in Nursing;

Klaudyna Graczkowski of Millerton pursuing a degree in Nursing;

Laura Kramarz of Millerton pursuing a degree in Nursing;

Kelli O'Leary of Hyde Park pursuing a degree in Nursing;

Karen Root of Pine Plains pursuing a degree in Nursing;

Sophia Fulgoni of Hyde Park pursuing a degree in Welding Technology.

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Poughkeepsie native serves aboard floating airport USS Carl Vinson

by Chief Mass
 Communication Specialist
 Jeffery Tilghman Williams,
 Navy Office of Community Outreach

SAN DIEGO - Petty Officer 2nd Class Matthew Maier, a native of Poughkeepsie, serves the U.S. Navy aboard one of the world's largest warships, the U.S. Navy aircraft carrier USS Carl Vinson.

Maier joined the Navy five years ago. Today, Maier serves as an aviation boatswain's mate.

"Ever since I can remember, I always wanted to join the military," said Maier. "The Navy ended up being my choice, because of the tradition."

Growing up in Poughkeepsie, Maier attended Arlington High School and graduated in 2011. Today, Maier relies upon skills and values similar to those found in Poughkeepsie to succeed in the military.

"I've brought my hard work ethic into my career and it's paid off in spades," said Maier. "Working hard always pays off, and I truly enjoy what I do."

Aircraft carriers provide unique capabilities and survivability. They are a powerful exhibition of the American Navy's legacy of innovation, technological evolution, and maritime dominance,

according to Navy officials.

USS Carl Vinson, like each of the Navy's aircraft carriers, is designed for a 50-year service life. When the air wing is embarked, the ship carries more than 70 attack fighter jets, helicopters and other aircraft, all of which take off from and land aboard the carrier at sea. With more than 5,000 sailors serving aboard, Carl Vinson is a self-contained mobile airport.

Aircraft carriers are often the first response to a global crisis because of their ability to operate freely in international waters anywhere on the world's oceans. Carrier strike groups have the unique advantage of mobility, making them far more strategically advantageous than fixed-site bases. No other weapon system can deploy and operate forward with a full-sized, nuclear-powered aircraft carrier's speed, endurance, agility, and the combat capability of its air wing.

The Carl Vinson and its crew recently returned to San Diego following an eight-month deployment to U.S. 3rd and 7th Fleets areas of operation.

"At the heart of every ship, whether ashore or at sea, are the Sailors that make up the crew and carry out the Navy's missions with precision and dedication," said Capt. P. Scott Miller, commanding officer of Nimitz-class aircraft carrier USS Carl Vinson. "The Vinson Sailors recently

demonstrated this in our execution of a highly successful 7th Fleet deployment and continue this legacy of excellence at home in San Diego."

During the USS Carl Vinson's most recent deployment the ship was underway for 262 days, conducting dual carrier operations and multinational exercises, including maritime security operations and integrated training between surface and air units.

USS Carl Vinson was the first aircraft carrier to deploy with a combination of fourth and fifth-generation platforms within Carrier Air Wing (CVW) 2 that represent the "Air Wing of the Future," including the F-35C Lightning IIs and the CMV-22B Ospreys.

Since USS Langley's commissioning 100 years ago, the nation's aircraft carriers, such as USS Carl Vinson, and embarked carrier air wings have projected power, sustained sea control, bolstered deterrence, provided humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, and maintained enduring commitments worldwide.

"The aircraft carrier is our U.S. Navy's centerpiece, our flagship, and a constant reminder to the rest of the world of our enduring maritime presence and influence," said Rear Arm. James P. Downey, USN, Program Executive Officer (PEO) Aircraft Carriers. "These ships touch every part of our Navy's mission to project power, ensure sea control, and deter our adversaries."

With more than 90 percent of all trade traveling by sea, and 95 percent of the world's international phone and internet traffic carried through fiber optic cables lying on the ocean floor, Navy officials continue to emphasize that the prosperity and security of the United States is directly linked to a strong and ready Navy.

Maier and the sailors he serves with



Petty Officer 2nd Class Matthew Maier

have many opportunities to achieve accomplishments during their military service.

"Making rank quickly has been one of my biggest accomplishments," said Maier. "I was able to make second-class petty officer in four years, which is pretty good, and I'm continuing to set myself up for future advancement."

As Maier and other sailors continue to train and perform missions, they take pride in serving their country in the United States Navy.

"Serving in the military means I'll always have a stable financial future for my family, which is very important to me," added Maier. "I'll also have opportunities for personal and professional growth while helping protect my country."

Answer to this week's Dot to Dot (puzzle on page 10)

THE GREATEST DOT TO DOT BOOKS!

Stars
 Stop at each star (★), then skip to the next number and start your line again. End ★ 92

By David Kalvitis © 2011 Monkeying Around

WMCHEALTH TEAMS UP WITH HV RENEGADES AS OFFICIAL HOSPITAL PARTNER

Westchester Medical Center Health Network (WMCHealth) and the Hudson Valley Renegades, the High-A affiliate of the New York Yankees, announced a major partnership making WMCHealth the inaugural Official Hospital Partner of the Renegades.

"Our organizations are cornerstone brands of the Hudson Valley and touchstones for life events for residents of the communities we serve," said Michael Israel, President and CEO, Westchester Medical Center Health Network. "As a network, we are deeply committed to ensuring the health and wellness of those in our local communities, and being able to partner with the Renegades presents a tremendous opportunity for us to advance that mission through new initiatives and programs."

At the heart of the partnership is a comprehensive community program that will have a lasting impact on Hudson Valley residents. Among the highlights of the community programs will be annual events promoting both partners' dedication to the health and wellness of the communities they serve.

WMCHealth, which employs more than 13,000 people and has nearly 3,000 attending physicians, will become the title sponsor of the Renegades Community Program, and the presenting sponsor of HOPE Week (Helping Others Persevere & Excel), a yearly organization-wide charitable initiative started by the Yankees in 2009. They also become title sponsor of We Care Wednesdays, a weekly promotion throughout the season aimed to integrate the non-profit community within Dutchess Stadium.

"The Renegades are elated to welcome WMCHealth into the Renegades family!" said Steve Gliner, President and General Manager of the Renegades. "It was clear to us from the start that WMCHealth exemplifies many of the same community-focused values we hold true to our organization, and the synergy that exists between our two organizations will make for a very successful partnership."

The Renegades will also help to give back to the Foundations of WMCHealth with the new Runs for a Cause program. Each run scored at home during the season aims to encourage crowd-sourced fundraising efforts for the various subdivisions of WMCHealth's network of services, including but not limited to, Maria Fareri Children's Hospital, a member of WMCHealth and the only acute care children's hospital in the region.

Answers to this week's diversions (puzzles on page 16)

Suguru solution

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SUDOKU
 This week's answer

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| 3 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 9 | 5 | 6 | 8 | 7 |
| 7 | 6 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 8 | 9 | 1 | 4 |
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Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce honorees at the "Emerald Ball" included, from left, Committee Co-Chair Matthew Mullaney, Hudson Cadillac Buick, GMC, Committee Co-Chair Samantha Cerbone, The Pines of Poughkeepsie, Chamber Board Chair Scott Pawenski, Branding Pros, Leadership Award Honoree, Tim Dean, Marshall & Sterling Insurance, Next Generation Award Honoree, Luigi Coppola, Coppola's Restaurant Group, Community Spirit Honoree, Lori Cassia-Decker, Angels of Light, Next Generation Honoree, Marcy Schwartz, Highway Displays, Chamber Foundation, Inc. of Counsel, Community Service Honoree, Hon. Stephen E. Diamond, Stenger, Diamond & Glass, LLP and Chamber President and CEO Frank Castella, Jr. *Courtesy photo*

Dutchess Regional Chamber honors outstanding leaders

The Dutchess County Regional Chamber of Commerce hosted over 400 attendees at the annual premier black-tie event with all proceeds to benefit The Chamber Foundation. The gala was themed as the "Emerald Ball" and recognized outstanding leaders in the community for their contributions to economic development and local business.

The following individuals were recognized:

- Leadership Award, Timothy Dean, Marshall & Sterling Insurance
- Community Spirit Award, Lori Cassia-Decker, Angels of Light
- Community Service Award, Stephen E. Diamond, Stenger, Diamond & Glass, LLP
- Next Generation Awards, Marcy Schwartz and Evan Hartman, Highway Displays and John, Luigi & Vinny Coppola, Coppola's Restaurant Group
- Thank you to our Platinum Sponsor, KeyBank.

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Foundation for Abilities First NY announces Board of Directors Changes

Abilities First, Inc. (AFI), a nonprofit organization supporting the needs of individuals with disabilities through the Hudson Valley region, has announced the addition of four community leaders to its Board of Directors.

Those additions include:

- William Jeffries, the operations officer & compliance officer for Mobile Life Support Services, Inc, who said, "In both my personal and professional life, I have witnessed what great achievements can be reached with compassionate, targeted, and dignified support. To me, that is what Abilities First, Inc. is all about and I am thrilled to help support that mission."

- Richard Kolosky, a senior vice president in commercial lending at Rhinebeck Bank in Rhinebeck, who has years of experience in commercial lending in the local/regional area, and has been involved in the Fishkill community in a multitude of ways.

- Dr. Rachana Tyagi, the associate director of Neurosurgery - Northern Division at Westchester Medical Center Health Network (WMC Health) and an associate professor of Neurosurgery at New York Medical College in Valhalla, who said, "As a pediatric and adult neurosurgeon, I have a commitment to caring for many patients with disabilities. I am proud to be joining Abilities First, Inc., which has a long history of serving the disabled community in the Hudson

Valley. I look forward to helping many more families and reaching new milestones with the wonderful people in the organization."

- Deepak Vashisht, assistant vice president of Regional Branch Management for Hudson Valley Credit Union, who said, "I firmly believe each person in the community plays an essential role in the development of that community. Serving as a board member is an opportunity for me to give back to my community. I am committed to protecting the best interests of the organization and those we serve, and ensuring that donor funds are well spent."

In addition to welcoming its newest members, the Abilities First, Inc. Board of Directors also elected member Mike Oates, president & CEO of Hudson Valley Economic Development, to the position of secretary.

Abilities First Inc. Board of Directors member Chris Gibson, strategic planning coordinator at Central Hudson, has moved to the Board of Directors for the Foundation for Abilities First NY, the fundraising arm for Abilities First Inc.

In addition to welcoming its newest member, the Foundation for Abilities First NY Board of Directors also elected member Anthony Morando, Esq. of Cuddy & Feder LLP to the open position of Secretary.

COLDWELL BANKER ANNOUNCES AWARDS

Coldwell Banker Village Green Realty recently announced its annual agent and firm awards. Every year, an elite group of top-performing agents are honored by Coldwell Banker LLC for their achievements in sales.

Twenty-eight Coldwell Banker Village Green Realty agents qualified for top Coldwell Banker awards, and the firm won a coveted spot on the Coldwell Banker Chairman's Circle list as one of the top Coldwell Banker affiliate firms in the world, reserved for Coldwell Banker affiliates in the Top 9% worldwide.

2021's top agent honors went to Amy Lonas and Regina Tortorella, who were awarded the International President's Premier designation for being among the top 1% of 100,000+ Coldwell Banker agents worldwide. Anne Hilton Purvis and Laurie Ylvisaker were presented the International President's Elite award for being among the top 3% of Coldwell Banker agents worldwide in 2021.

Ten CBVGR agents were honored with the International President's Circle award, presented to the top 7% of Coldwell Banker agents worldwide: Eric Amaral, Leslie Foti, Lisa Jaeger, Angela Lanuto, Aysa Morehead, Christine Nielson, Rose Noone, Antonio Parrotta, Dawn Passante and Bruce Stalnaker.

New members of Coldwell Banker's International Diamond Society are Samantha Clark, Amy Crossfield, MaryAnn Miller, Allison Morelle, Herbert Parets and Aaron Perer, all among the top 12% of Coldwell Banker worldwide agents.

New members of Coldwell Banker's International Sterling Society award are Valerie Cashen, Jacqueline Coyle, Debra P. Daleo, Sharon Knudsen, Sara Gorman Maliha, Amy Owens, Cathy Pulichene and Lindsay Elizabeth Quayle. They were among the top 18% of Coldwell Banker agents worldwide.

In addition to the Coldwell Banker awards, Village Green Realty has firm awards that recognize the contributions their agents make to the firm's business and

its culture. Coldwell Banker Village Green Realty's 2021 Company Top Producer was Regina Tortorella, who was also the Top Producer in Village Green Realty's Windham office and received a special award for being the firm's Top Listing Agent. Each CBVGR office location has a Top Producer: Angela Lanuto (Catskill), Amy Lonas (Woodstock), MaryAnn Miller (Kingston), Allison Morelle (Red Hook) and Anne Hilton Purvis (New Paltz) all received recognition for their stratospheric sales in 2021 at the firm's Feb. 22 award ceremony.

Every CBVGR office also gives an award for Most Improved Production: Joann Alvis (Windham), MaryAnn Miller (Kingston), Allison Morelle (Red Hook), Zachary Petrocca (Catskill), Bradford Serini (New Paltz) and Marcia Zwilling (Woodstock) were all awarded this honor. The offices' Team Spirit awards went to Joann Alvis (Windham), Eric Amaral (Woodstock), Hollis Dukler (New Paltz), Angela Lanuto (Catskill), Maarten Reilingh (Red Hook) and Gerardina van den Nouweland (Kingston).

Bruce Stalnaker won a special "Knocked It Out of the Ballpark" Award, Amie Durham received the CBVGR Mitzvah Award and Zachary Petrocca received the Rising Star Award.

Timothy Hurley received an Achievement Award for 15 years with CBVGR. Francesca Noble won an Achievement Award for 10 years with CBVGR. Agents receiving an Achievement Award for five years with CBVGR were Elena Coogan, Joel Craig, Debra P. Daleo, Robin Elliott, Leslie Foti, Cecily Sachi and Donald Wilkins.

Coldwell Banker Village Green Realty is celebrating 30 years in the Hudson Valley. With six offices across the Hudson Valley and Catskills Region in Catskill, Kingston, New Paltz, Red Hook, Windham and Woodstock NY, Coldwell Banker Village Green has spent decades making real estate experiences what they should be for their agents and clients.

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OBITUARIES

Wayne A. Brandes Sr.

RHINEBECK – Wayne Andrew Brandes, 77, of Rhinebeck, NY passed away peacefully surrounded by his loving family on Sunday, March 6, 2022. Wayne was born in Queens, NY, on January 21, 1945. He was the son of the late John and Lillian (Hebert) Brandes of New York, NY and Ste. Agathe, ME, respectively. He was one of five siblings, including the late John Brandes, the late Lorraine Kremenick, the late Kenneth N. Brandes, and Elaine DelBene. Wayne attended Thomas A. Edison Vocational and Technical School in Queens, NY. After earning his GED, he worked in NYC as an ice cream truck driver and taxi driver. He knew the city streets like the back of his hand, and this is undoubtedly why. Wayne enlisted in the United States Marine Corps on October 23, 1963 at the age of eighteen. He told stories of his boot camp experiences at Camps LeJeune (NC, 1963) and DelMar (CA, 1963), as well as his time in The Marine Security Guard School (VA, 1964-67) with great pride and deep emotion. These years were so impressionable on him that he recalled such detail in these memories as if it were yesterday. Anyone who was lucky enough to hear these stories likely learned a thing or two that they could carry with them throughout their own lives. His Military Occupational Specialty as an Aircraft Mechanic equipped Wayne with the knowledge and skills he had to fix anything; knowledge and skills that he proudly and lovingly passed on to his children and grandchildren as his “little helpers.” On August 6th, 1965, Wayne was promoted to the rank of Sergeant and was soon stationed in Italy, serving as a Marine Corps Security Guard at the United States Embassy in Rome. He was honorably discharged on October 22, 1967. Wayne prided himself on being a Marine. “Once a Marine, always a Marine.” he would say. And it was true. He lived his whole life by the three core values of the Marine Corps: Honor, Courage and Commitment. Wayne was a 52-year member of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. From 1978-1995 he worked as an electrician with Local Union #3 for many companies, most notably Fischbach & Moore. He was Foreman or General Foreman on numerous job sites across New York City, such as Columbia University, Columbia Presbyterian Hospital, New York Transit Authority, and the World Trade Center. One of his proudest accomplishments was the installation of the electronic toll collection system for Amtech and TBTA, aka, EZ-PASS. Wayne was a well-known resident of Rhinebeck. If he wasn't at home tinkering or tending to his fruit trees, he could likely be found at Williams Lumber or Pete's Famous Diner. He was a beloved member of the Sepasco Village Community for over 43 years. He spearheaded many of the beautification projects of the lake and served on the Sepasco Village Board for many years. He was an outgoing and dependable neighbor, always willing to lend a helping hand. He was

everyone's go to guy for anything that needed fixing. He will be deeply missed in the community. Wayne's second home was Ste. Agathe, ME, where he spent his summers as a child and where his many Hebert family members reside. Wayne was never happier than when he was fishing on Long Lake, in summer or winter, and spending time with his beloved cousins. Wayne's bright smile was one of a kind. That, and his playful personality will be remembered fondly by all. Those who knew Wayne knew he delighted in his garden, had a fervent love of Elvis and a passion for his purple hot rods. He was a colorful storyteller and an electric dancer. But perhaps his most defining characteristic was his big heart and how much he loved his family. He was an amazing father and an even greater Pop-Pop to his twelve grandchildren, who were the light of his life. Wayne is survived by Eileen Brandes Meinsen of Rhinebeck; his five children, Kenneth Brandes and his wife Paula of Old Greenwich, CT, Wayne Brandes, Jr. and his wife Aimee of Port St. Lucie, FL, Brett Brandes and his wife Jennifer of Red Hook, NY, Deva Lapatas and her husband Panos of Derby, CT, and Jan Rita Rexhouse and her fiancé Peter of Rhinebeck, NY; and his dear grandchildren Audrey, Devin, Grace, Vance, Violet, Vynn-Vegas, Lillian, Alexandra, Leandros, Ethan, Jackson and Hudson as well as many nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends. Memorial calling hours will be held at the Dapson-Chestney Funeral Home, 51 W. Market St., on Saturday, April 2 from 10 AM to 2 PM. A graveside service will be held at the Rhinebeck Cemetery with services by Fr. Crawford of Good Shepherd Church, the American Legion Post #429, and the Marine Corps Honor Guard following Memorial Hours. Memorial donations in honor of Wayne can be made to The Arbor Day Foundation. This link will take you to “Trees in Memory” where you can have trees planted in his honor. <https://shop.arborday.org/trees-in-memory> To send an online condolence, please visit www.dapsonchestney.com.

Austin Stanley Cox

RHINEBECK – Austin Stanley Cox, 91, passed away Tuesday, March 15, 2022, surrounded by his family at home in Rhinebeck. Austin served in the US Army from 1953-1955 during the Korean War. He graduated from Albany State Teachers College and worked for 30 years as a Social Studies teacher at FDR High School in Hyde Park. He was member of the Reformed Church of Rhinebeck and served on the Consistory for 20 years, 17 years as Vice President. Following his retirement, he worked throughout the community as a carpenter and handyman. Born September 20, 1930 in Middletown, he was the son of Stanley Austin and Alice Edna (Wright) Cox. On February, 2, 1957 in Lake George, he married Lois Norma Brazier. In addition to his wife Lois Cox of Rhinebeck, he is survived by his son Ron (Alison) Cox of Sarasota, FL; his daughter

Janette (Ray) Morrissey of Exeter, RI; six grandchildren, Danielle Brescia, Jake (Samantha Kapper) Brescia, Steven (Marissa Durnell) Cox, Erin (Evan) Mantel, Jonathan Morrissey and Jessica Morrissey; several great grandchildren, and many cousins, nieces and nephews; and a sister Elizabeth Gedney. He was preceded in death by a brother David Cox Friends and family were invited to greet the family Saturday, March 19th, at the Reformed Church of Rhinebeck Cordes Hall, 6368 Mill St., Rhinebeck. A reception followed the memorial service in Cordes Hall. Memorial donations may be made to The Rhinebeck Reformed Church, 6368 Mill St., Rhinebeck, NY 12572, or The Hudson Valley Hospice Foundation, 374 Violet Ave, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601. To sign the online obituary, please visit dapsonchestney.com. Arrangements are under the direction of the Dapson-Chestney Funeral Home, 51 W. Market St., Rhinebeck.

Janeth A. Kelly

STORMVILLE – Janeth A. Kelly passed away at home on March 13, 2022, surrounded by her loving family, almost exactly one month after the love of her life George Kelly passed away at home as well. Janeth was born on July 26, 1927 in Hartford, CT to parents Robert and Gladys (Crane) Austin. Spending most of her life in Connecticut, Janeth and George moved to Stormville to be with their family in 2013. Janeth met her husband George on a golf course and on May 16, 1959, they were married at St. Mary's Church in Milford, CT. She worked as a schoolteacher at Live Oaks Elementary for many years and enjoyed her first-grade students. She is survived by her beloved sons John Kelly (Lora) of Stormville, NY, and G. Christopher Kelly (Michelle) of Katonah, NY; her loving grandchildren Caitlyn, Sarah, Zachary, Mikayla, Mia, and Casey, and her loving great-grandson Hunter Austin. She was pre-deceased by her beloved husband George Kelly; and by her sister Muriel Anderson. Memorial calling hours took place on Saturday March 19, 2022, with a funeral service at the McHoul Funeral Home, Inc. 895 Route 82 Hopewell Junction, NY. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Janeth's memory to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital www.stjude.org.

Patricia A. Kirtland

HYDE PARK – Patricia A. Kirtland, 75, a lifelong area resident, died on Tuesday, March 15, 2022, at the Mid-Hudson Regional Hospital in Poughkeepsie. Known as “Patty” to family and friends, she was born on

October 22, 1946, in Poughkeepsie, the only child of Charles J. and Gloria Cronk Hedinger. She graduated from Our Lady of Lourdes High School in 1964, earned her B.A. from SUNY Albany in 1968, and Master's degree in English Education from SUNY New Paltz in 1978. Mrs. Kirtland was a schoolteacher in the City of Poughkeepsie, and taught at both the Poughkeepsie Middle School and High School; in later years, she worked as an English and SAT Prep tutor through Finish Line Tutoring Services in Hyde Park, NY. On June 28, 1969, in Poughkeepsie, she married her high school sweetheart - and lifelong love - Dr. William D. Kirtland, DDS. Her husband survives at home. From 1986 to 2020, Patty was the office manager for her husband's dental practice in Hyde Park, NY. Her personal motto was “Bloom where you're planted”, and she brought her trademark wit, grace and compassion to the role - never missing an opportunity to make genuine connections. She is warmly remembered by many patients over the years, and even brought her educator's insight to the job - running a lending library out of the waiting room. In addition to her husband, she is survived by her three children: William D. Kirtland Jr. and wife, Elizabeth Liu, of Irvington, NY; Joseph C. Kirtland and partner Danielle Whitten, of Poughkeepsie, NY; and Georgia C. Kirtland of Hyde Park, NY. She was a beloved “Nana” to six grandchildren, who were her pride and constant joy: Quince, Cash, Adriana, Benjamin, Cody, and Ella. Her kindness, humor (especially during life's tough times), and “way of being” will always be treasured by her family and friends. A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated Saturday, March 19th at Regina Coeli Church, Rte.9, Hyde Park. In keeping with her wishes, cremation followed and her ashes will be buried in St. Peter's Cemetery, Poughkeepsie. In lieu of flowers, Patricia's family respectfully requests memorial donations to Meals on Wheels of Greater Hyde Park, C/O HPUMC, 1 Church Street, Hyde Park, NY 12538 (www.mealsonwheelsofhp.org); St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Pl., Memphis, TN 38105 (www.stjude.org); Tunnel to Towers Foundation, 2361 Hylan Blvd., Staten Island, NY 10306 (t2t.org); or the Kirtland Cancer Foundation, PO Box 108, Franklin, PA 16323. (www.kirtlandcancerfoundation.org). Arrangements are under the direction of Sweet's Funeral Home, Inc., Rte. 9, Hyde Park. To send an online condolence, or, please visit Patricia's obituary page at www.sweetsfuneralhome.com.

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Legal Notices

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING, BUDGET VOTE AND ELECTION OF TRUSTEES HOWLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that a vote will be taken upon the following proposition to appropriate the funds necessary to meet the estimated expenditures of the Howland Public Library for the 2022-2023 fiscal year to be held at the Howland Public Library, 313 Main Street, Beacon, New York, on April 28, 2022, between the hours of 12:00 noon and 8:00 p.m.:

Proposition #1 "Shall the sum of \$1,282,445.00 be appropriated for the annual support of the Howland Public Library for the fiscal year 2022-2023 and shall the Beacon City School District be authorized to levy the taxes necessary to raise such amount?"

NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that at the same time and place, a vote to elect one (1) member to the Board of Trustees for a term of five (5) years, and one (1) member to the Board of Trustees for a term of four (4) years will also occur.

NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN

Legal Notices

The Annual Meeting of the Clove Cemetery Assn. will be held on Saturday, April 2, 2022 at the Valley Bible Fellowship Church, 1875 Clove Valley Road, LaGrangeville, NY. All plotowners are invited to attend. For further information, contact Elfriede Tillman (845)724-5840.

Legal Notices

TOWN OF PLEASANT VALLEY NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Town Board of the Town of Pleasant Valley will conduct a PUBLIC HEARING at Town Hall, 1554 Main Street, Pleasant Valley, New York, on the 4th day of April, 2022, at 7:00 p.m., at which time all parties in interest and citizens shall have an opportunity to be heard as to whether the Town Board of the Town of Pleasant Valley shall adopt a PROPOSED LOCAL LAW ENTITLED: "A LOCAL LAW CHANGING THE RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT FOR THE OFFICE OF DEPUTY CLERK".

BE IT ENACTED by the Town Board of the Town of Pleasant Valley as follows:

SECTION 1.

TITLE.

This Local Law shall be entitled "A Local Law Changing the Residency Requirement for the Office of Deputy Clerk".

SECTION 2.

Legal Notices

that petitions nominating candidates for the office of trustee of the Howland Public Library must be filed with the Library Election Clerk not later than 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 28, 2022.

Each petition must be directed to the Library Election Clerk, must be signed by at least 25 qualified voters of the Howland Public Library District, must state the residence of each signer, and must state the name and residence of the candidate. Petition forms may be obtained from the Library weekdays between 9:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.

NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN that the Board of Registration will meet on April 13, 2022, between the hours of 1:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. for the purpose of preparing a register of the qualified voters of such Library District at the offices of the Howland Public Library, 313 Main Street, Beacon, New York. Anyone not presently registered will be registered in accordance with Section 2014 of the Education Law. Any person shall be entitled to have his/her name placed upon such register, provided that at such meeting of the Board of Registration, he/she is known or proven to the satisfaction of such Board of Registration to be then or thereafter entitled to vote at the school meeting or election for which such register is prepared.

Voters registered for general elections under Article 5 of the Election Law are eligible to vote at the April 28, 2022, budget vote and election without further registration. Voters who have been previously registered for any annual or special meeting or election and who have voted at any such annual or special meeting or election held or conducted during the last four calendar years preceding 2021 are eligible to

Legal Notices

INTENT.

The intent of this law is to allow the Town Clerk or the Town Board, as the case may be, to appoint a Deputy Town Clerk who is not a resident of the Town of Pleasant Valley.

SECTION 3.

AUTHORITY.

This law is enacted pursuant to §10 of the Municipal Home Rule Law.

SECTION 4.

ELIGIBILITY OF DEPUTY TOWN CLERK.

The first Deputy Town Clerk of the Town of Pleasant Valley, and any additional Deputy Town Clerks appointed pursuant to §30(10)(a) and/or (b) of the Town Law, at the time of his or her appointment and throughout his or her term of office need not be an elector of the Town of Pleasant Valley but must be a resident of Dutchess County.

SECTION 5.

SUPERSESSION.

This Local Law is intended to supersede the residency requirements contained in §23(1) of the Town

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vote at the April 28, 2022, budget vote and election without further registration. The register prepared will be filed in the office of the Library and will be open for inspection by any qualified voter of the Library District between the hours of 9:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. on each of the five days prior to the election. The register will also be available for inspection on the day of the election at the polling place.

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that applications for absentee ballots may be applied for at the Library office. If the ballot is to be mailed to the voter, the completed application must be received by the Library Election Clerk no later than 4:00 p.m., prevailing time, seven (7) days before the annual library budget vote and election. If the ballot is to be delivered personally to the voter, the completed application must be received by the Library Election Clerk no later than 5:00 p.m., prevailing time, one day before the annual library budget vote and election. A list of all persons to whom absentee ballots are issued will be available for inspection weekdays between 9:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., prevailing time, at the Library office on each of the five (5) days before the annual district vote and election.

By order of the Board of Trustees of the Howland Public Library Julie Beyer Library Election Clerk

The Annual Meeting of the Clove Cemetery Assn. will be held on Saturday, April 2, 2022 at the Valley Bible Fellowship Church, 1875 Clove Valley Road, LaGrangeville, NY. All plot owners are invited to attend. For further information, contact Elfriede Tillman (845)724-5840.

SUPREME COURT OF

Legal Notices

Law, §3(1) of the Public Officers Law, and any Local Law of the Town of Pleasant Valley which requires the Deputy Town Clerk to be an elector of the Town of Pleasant Valley.

SECTION 6.

EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Local Law shall become effective immediately upon its filing in the Office of the New York State Department of State. PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE, that a copy of the proposed Local Law is available for review and inspection at the Office of the Town Clerk of the Town of Pleasant Valley, at Town Hall, 1554 Main Street, Pleasant Valley, New York between the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Mondays through Thursdays and between the hours of 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Fridays between the date of this notice and the date of the public hearing.

Dated:

March 21, 2022 MARY BETH MUIR, TOWN CLERK

Legal Notices

THE STATE OF NEW YORK – COUNTY OF DUTCHESS INDEX # 2018-51943 FILED 2/25/2022 SUPPLEMENTAL SUMMONS

Plaintiff designates Dutchess County as the place of trial based on the location of the mortgaged premises in this action. Plaintiff's principal place of business is C/O Seterus, Inc. 14523 SW Milikan Way Suite 200, Beaverton, Oregon 97005. FEDERAL NATIONAL MORTGAGE ASSOCIATION, Plaintiff, Donald Kennedy, if living, and if dead, the respective heirs at law, next of kin, distributees, executors, administrators, trustees, devisees, legatees, assignors, lienors, creditors and successors in interest and generally all persons having or claiming under, by or through said defendant who may be deceased, by purchase, inheritance, lien or otherwise of any right, title or interest in and to the premises described in the complaint herein, and their respective husbands, wives or widow, if any, and each and every person not specifically named who may be entitled to or claim to have any right, title or interest in the property described in the verified complaint; all of whom and whose names and places of residence unknown, and cannot after diligent inquiry be ascertained by the Plaintiff, New York State Department of Taxation and Finance, Hudson Valley Federal Credit Union, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA O/B/O INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE, Defendants. To the above-named defendants:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to answer the complaint in this action and to serve a copy of your answer, or, if the complaint is not served with this summons, to serve a notice of appearance, on the plaintiff's attorneys within twenty (20) days after the service of this summons, exclusive of the day of service (or within thirty (30) days after the service is complete if this summons is not personally delivered to you within the State of New York); and in case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment will be taken against you by default for

Legal Notices

the relief demanded in the complaint. NOTICE YOU ARE IN DANGER OF LOSING YOUR HOME If you do not respond to this summons and complaint by serving a copy of the answer on the attorney for the mortgage company who filed this foreclosure proceeding against you and filing the answer with the court, a default judgment may be entered and you can lose your home. Speak to an attorney or go to the court where your case is pending for further information on how to answer the summons and protect your property. Sending a payment to your mortgage company will not stop this foreclosure action. YOU MUST RESPOND BY SERVING A COPY OF THE ANSWER ON THE ATTORNEY FOR THE PLAINTIFF (MORTGAGE COMPANY) AND FILING THE ANSWER WITH THE COURT. This action was commenced to foreclose a mortgage against real property located at 493 Stanton Terrace, Poughkeepsie, New York 12603. You are named as a party defendant herein because you may have an interest in the premises. McCabe, Weisberg & Conway, LLC, Attorneys for Plaintiff, 1 Huntington Quadrangle, Suite 3C20, Melville, NY 11747, (631) 812-4084, (855) 845-2584 facsimile. HELP FOR HOMEOWNERS IN FORECLOSURE New York State requires that we send you this notice about the foreclosure process. Please read it carefully. SUMMONS AND COMPLAINT You are in danger of losing your home. If you fail to respond to the Summons and Complaint in this foreclosure action, you may lose your home. Please read the Summons and Complaint carefully. You should immediately contact an attorney or your local legal aid office to obtain advice on how to protect yourself. SOURCES OF INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE The State encourages you to become informed about your options in foreclosure. In addition to seeking assistance from an attorney or legal aid office, there are government agencies, and non-profit organizations that you may contact for information about possi-

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ble options, including trying to work with your lender during this process. To locate an entity near you, you may call the toll-free helpline maintained by New York State Department of Financial Services' at 1-877-BANK-NYS (1-877-226-5697) or visit the Department's website at WWW.BANKING.STATE.NY.US. RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS YOU ARE NOT REQUIRED TO LEAVE YOUR HOME AT THIS TIME. You have the right to stay in your home during the foreclosure process. You are not required to leave your home unless and until your property is sold at auction pursuant to a judgment of foreclosure and sale. Regardless of whether you choose to remain in your home, YOU ARE REQUIRED TO TAKE CARE OF YOUR PROPERTY and pay your taxes in accordance with state and local law. FORECLOSURE RESCUE SCAMS Be careful of people who approach you with offers to "save" your home. There are individuals who watch for notices of foreclosure actions in order to unfairly profit from a homeowner's distress. You should be extremely careful about any such promises and any suggestions that you pay them a fee or sign over your deed. State law requires anyone offering such services for profit to enter into a contract which fully describes the services they will perform and fees they will charge, and which prohibits them from taking any money from you until they have completed all such promised services. File# 560-3877

NOTICE TO OWNERS OF VIABLE FARMLAND IN DUTCHESS COUNTY

Pursuant to Section 303-b of the NYS Agriculture and Markets Law Article 25AA, the Dutchess County Legislature has designated the period April 15 through May 14, 2022, during which Dutchess County landowners who own "predominately viable agricultural land" may request that their land be newly included in one of the County's four existing Agricultural Districts. In order to be considered for

Legal Notices

such inclusion, an application must be on file with the Dutchess County Soil and Water Conservation District on or before May 14, 2022. Only parcels judged to be "predominately viable agricultural land" will be included. To receive an application, contact the District at 845-677-8011 ext. 3. A copy of the application can also be downloaded from the District's website: <http://dutchesswcd.org>. Landowners whose parcels are already included in an Agricultural District are not required to apply as part of the annual inclusion process.

Inclusion in an Agricultural District provides right-to-farm protections for farm businesses, including protection against laws that unreasonably regulate farm operations in agricultural districts, limited protection from private nuisance claims, and notification of property buyers about farming practices prior to purchase of property in agricultural districts. Applications must be on file with the Dutchess County Soil and Water Conservation District on or before May 14, 2022. The Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board will review applications and submit a report to the Dutchess County Legislature, which will hold a public hearing and forward any approved applications to the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets for certification. Only parcels judged to be "predominately viable agricultural land," pursuant to Section 303-b of the New York State Agriculture and Markets Law will be included.

To receive an application, contact the Dutchess County Soil and Water Conservation District at 845-677-8011, ext. 3. A copy of the application can also be downloaded from the District's website: <http://dutchesswcd.org>. Landowners whose parcels are already included in an Agricultural District are not required to apply as part of the annual inclusion process. LEIGH WAGER CLERK, DUTCHESS COUNTY LEGISLATURE March 15, 2022

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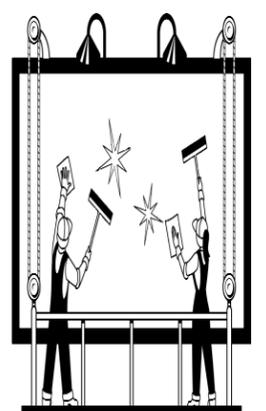
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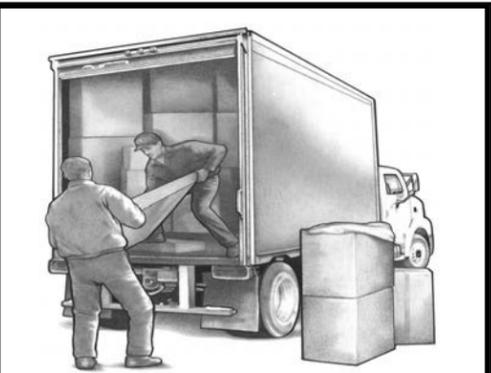
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Cary Institute study focuses on sustaining recreational fisheries

The observation that “the fishing’s not what it used to be” ranks up there with “the one that got away” as a story that has crossed over from folk wisdom to folklore. But what if there is truth in it?

New research published in *Fish and Fisheries* suggests that slow but steady degradation of recreational fisheries may be common, and points to actions that anglers and fisheries managers can take to help stabilize and improve fisheries today and for future generations.

Fishery biologist Dr. Chelsey Nieman led the study when they were a postdoctoral researcher at Cary Institute of Ecosystem Studies. They explain, “For too long, recreational fisheries were seen as self-regulating. We now know that their sustainability depends on both natural and human features. When these conditions change, it can have big implications for fish populations and the quality of the fishing experience.”

Nieman and co-author Dr. Chris Solomon, an ecologist at Cary Institute, focused on the human side of fisheries. Their study is one of the first to explore the role that slow social change plays in the resilience of recreational fisheries. “When change happens over many years or generations, it can be hard for people to perceive it or summon the will to act on it,” Solomon notes. “Yet our work shows that slow social changes that can degrade fisheries may be quite common and widespread.”

Using a mathematical model of open access recreational fisheries, and data from Wisconsin, the western Pacific, and British Columbia, they considered the impacts of three kinds of social change on

fish abundance: the cost of going fishing, the effectiveness of fishing technology, and the importance of catch to angler satisfaction. “These are three key determinants of fish abundance,” says Nieman, “and there is reason to believe that each of them might be changing in ways that gradually drive fish abundance lower.”

Travel tends to be a major ‘cost’ of going fishing. Improvements in road infrastructure that accumulate over many years can reduce travel time and encourage more fishing. The authors highlight evidence that fishing destinations are becoming easier to reach. An Ecological Applications study in a region of northern Wisconsin where lake access is one of the primary uses of roads found that road density more than doubled between 1937 and 1999.

Similarly, gradual advancements in fishing technology – from improved fishing gear to wider use of electronics and faster spread of fishing knowledge via apps and social media – mean that each hour spent fishing can yield more fish caught. “This ‘technological creep’ has been well documented in commercial fisheries,” says Nieman, “and it’s occurring in recreational fisheries as well.”

The importance of catch to angler satisfaction may also change over time. Anglers value many aspects of the fishing experience beyond just catching fish, such as spending time in nature, socializing, and mastering angling-related challenges. “Because catching fish is only one of many reasons that people go fishing,” Solomon says, “they may continue to enjoy going fishing even as catch rates decline.”

For instance, a study looking at motiva-

tions for fishing in British Columbia found that from 1990-2005, catch-related motivations declined while non-catch motivations changed very little. “It’s like the old story about boiling a frog,” says Solomon. “If anglers gradually become accustomed to lower catch rates, they may not notice the signal that it’s time to jump out of the water. Ultimately, that can be bad for the fishery, because fishing pressure continues even as fish populations drop to dangerously low levels.”

Despite these concerns, the authors emphasize a positive message: “There are concrete actions that anglers and managers can take to help ensure sustainable fisheries, even in the face of slow social change,” says Nieman. They and Solomon emphasize five actions – three for anglers, and two for fisheries managers – as particularly important.

First, anglers can embrace the challenge of fishing, to fight technological creep. “Limitations on fishing methods are commonly accepted or even adopted by anglers out of a sense of fair play and a desire for challenge,” says Solomon. “Extending these limitations – for instance, by voluntarily avoiding the use of technologies like fish finders – could go a long way.” Voluntary behavior change may be essential for counteracting the negative effects that gradual technological improvement can have on fish populations.

Second, anglers can take steps to reduce fishing mortality by using best practices to release captured fish whenever possible. “Limiting fish mortality helps to sustain good fishing opportunities,” says Nieman. Third, anglers can support and advocate

for adequate funding for fisheries monitoring by state management agencies, who play an essential role in understanding and conserving fish populations in the face of social and environmental change. Improvements in monitoring lead to more effective responses by managers – and better outcomes for fish populations.

For managers, the authors recommend actions that are already in use in some places. First, some fishing opportunities should be managed for high catch rates. “Many waterbodies are managed to support high fishing effort,” says Nieman. “This is important for making sure that people have opportunities to fish, but because it’s hard to have lots of people fishing and high catch rates at the same time, it may contribute to decreases in the importance of catch to angler satisfaction. If some waterbodies are managed for high catch rates instead of high effort, it should help counteract slow but insidious changes in the importance of catch,” Nieman advises.

Second, the authors urge careful consideration of the long-term impacts of investments in infrastructure such as boat launches; once access improves, fishing pressure ramps up. “Everyone wants good and equitable access to fishing opportunities,” says Solomon, “Providing that access while ensuring long-term fisheries sustainability will take careful thought.”

“If anglers and managers can work together to confront the challenges posed by gradual social and environmental change,” concludes Nieman, “we can hope to sustain good fishing opportunities and healthy fish populations for many generations to come.”

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Ulster Savings

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*Ulster Savings Bank will give a credit of \$500 toward closing costs at closing. Customer pays for all other fees and services. Eligible mortgages include owner-occupied and second home purchases. Offer applies to fixed rate home purchase applications received between 3/15-5/15/2022 and must close by August 15, 2022. Not valid for pre-qualifications, home equity products, construction loans, adjustable rate mortgages, or mortgage applications received prior to 3/15/2022. Offer may not be combined with any other offers or discounts unless otherwise noted. Offer may be withdrawn at any time. Subject to underwriting approval. Conforming loan limits only

NMLS# 619306 EQUAL HOUSING LENDER / MEMBER FDIC